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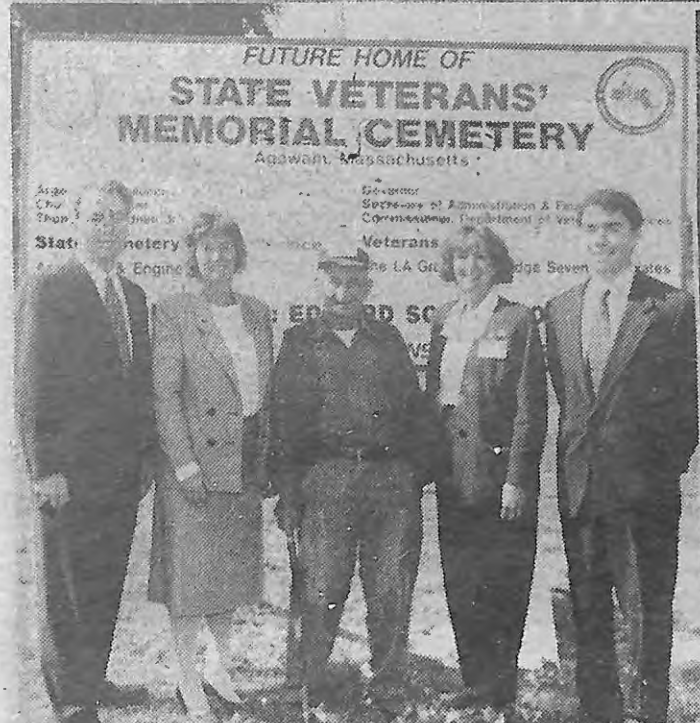
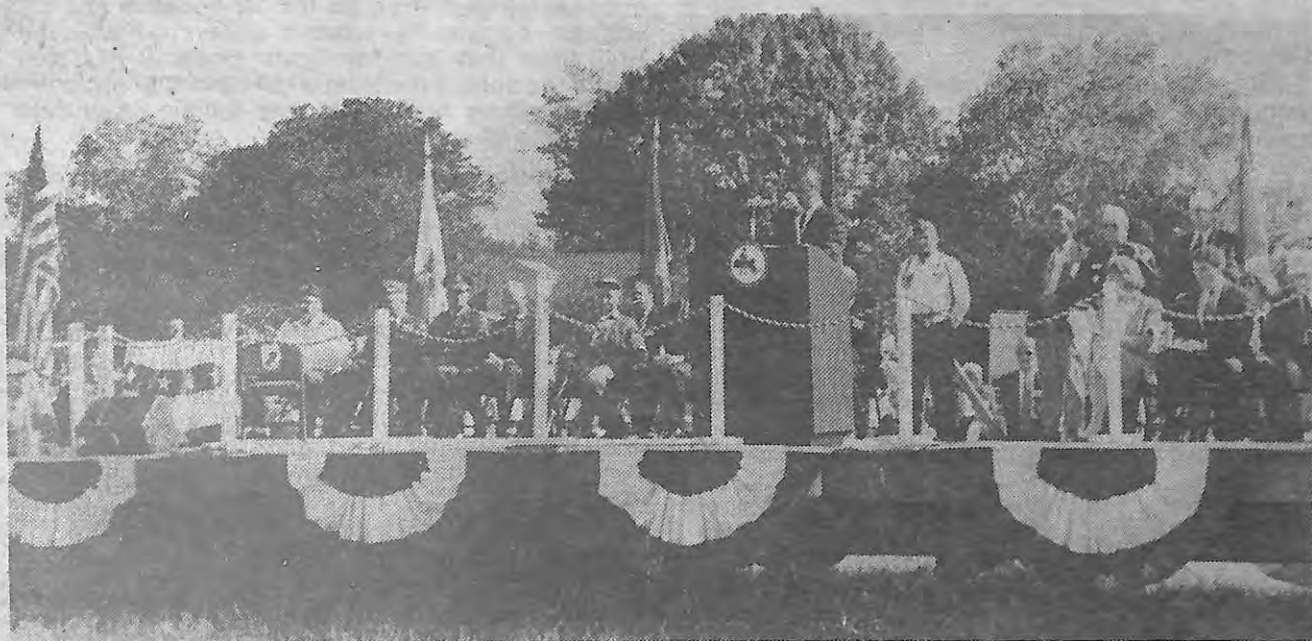
Volume XX Number 41

"Your Hometown Newspaper"

October 16, 1997

Groundbreaking On Main Street For Vets' Cemetery...

Farmer Squazza's Dream Comes True



PHOTOS, CLOCKWISE: Governor Paul Cellucci and Farmer Edward Squazza are side-by-side at groundbreaking ceremonies on Wednesday, October 8th for the new State Veterans' Cemetery off Main Street; Mayor Christopher C. Johnson, State Senator Linda J. Melconian, Farmer Squazza, Veterans' Agent Ruth Bitzas, and State Rep. Daniel F. Keenan; Governor Paul Cellucci addresses the gathering; Farmer Edward Squazza, who donated the land for the veterans' cemetery, is all smiles at groundbreaking ceremonies; AHS Band Director Tammy Watson leads the AHS Concert Band at the groundbreaking ceremonies. RELATED PHOTOS AND STORY ON PAGE 8. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



Editorial

A Piece Of My Mind...

The After-Primary Spinmeisters

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

It's kind of amazing how the conventional wisdom and the political spinmeistering changes to fit a reality. Nothing comes close to elections in fitting the spin (control) cycle scenario, and last week's preliminary election was no exception.

As usual, the top vote getters say the results show the people either like the job they are doing as incumbents or think they will do a good job as newcomers. The candidates who did not do as well as they had hoped tend to talk about well-oiled political machines, voter apathy, candidates running as a "block," and running a low profile campaign as reasons for their standing with the voters.

The lights had barely gone off at the polling places when people all over town noticed a faint, yet growing, hum. What could it be, they wondered. As the sound grew from hum to buzz to drone, puzzlement slowly lifted from furrowed brows as recognition dawned. Oh, yes, we've heard that sound before. **It's the sound of spinning wheels running amok!**

Before the election, conventional wisdom held that a low voter turnout favored the opponents of the incumbent in any election (because people who are dissatisfied with the status quo are more likely to make the effort to get to the polls). Conversely, the people who are happy with the way things are going are less likely to get out and vote.

This wisdom is supposed to be particularly true in primary elections which traditionally attract fewer voters than the "real" election.

But that's not true anymore. Now, spin control says the numbers don't mean anything because (choose your own favorite theory) a; low voter tur-

nout actually favored the Mayor; b; the turnout was too low to make any predictions about next month's election; c; people who would have voted for candidates other than the winners, i.e., the losers, stayed away from the polls.

Some of the more entertaining explanations for the primary results began spinning in political circles while the pizzas were still hot at the post election gatherings where candidates waited for the returns.

First, I learned that the difference between the total number of votes for the Mayor and the total number of votes cast for opposition candidates was just .8 of one percent. Sounds like a pretty close race, except that the decimal points needs to move one place to the left—the gap is actually 8 percent.

Then I heard that the candidates with the least amount of votes hadn't done any campaigning. So how did Jill Simpson manage to come in eighth? The only campaigning she did was on election day and that amounted to holding the one sign her sons had made using crayons and poster board as they have done for the last two municipal elections.

Of course, as a sitting councilor, Mrs. Simpson does have an opportunity to get her points across to the voters twice a month (at Council meetings). But, then again, so do the candidates who haven't been shy about sharing their points of view with the public via Citizen's Speak Time. And look where they ended up (18th, 19th, 21st, 22nd, and 24th).

And what's the deal with a newcomer, Robert

M. Young, coming in third? I'm not aware of any spin that adequately explains this phenomenon, but it's still early in the campaign. Maybe it's just this simple: people liked what this guy had to say and they voted for him. Maybe they think a complete "unknown" is better than the "known."

And how about Gina Marie Letellier coming in first! She thinks it's because the people approve of the style and substance she brought to Citizen's Speak Time in discussing issues related to the Berkshire Power project and because she has the support of friends and family.

But, I've already heard the inevitable conventional wisdom whenever women candidates are successful: people voted for her because she's a woman. Apparently, women always do well the first time they run for Town Council. At least that's the spin. If it's true, what does that tell you? Do the voters really find **any** female candidate preferable to a male?

The bottom line is there are winners and losers in every election. Some candidates—the ones more people put their trust in—come out on top. Some candidates—the ones most people don't agree with—don't get elected.

No doubt the November 4th election will generate another round of blather and blather control.

Two things are certain: the reasons given to explain the results will sound very much like the ones we've already heard, and the voters, not spin control, will decide what the election really means.

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5 Lbs. Or More	\$2.49 Lb.
10 Lbs. Or More	\$1.99 Lb.
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Boneless Center Cut Pork Roast	\$2.99 Lb.
Boneless Center Cut Pork Cutlets	\$3.29 Lb.
Grade "A" Chicken Breast	
Whole	\$1.09 Lb.
Split	\$1.29 Lb.
Fresh Ground Chuck	
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10 Lbs. Or More	\$1.49 Lb.
Frozen Hamburg Patties (5 Lb. Box)	\$8.99
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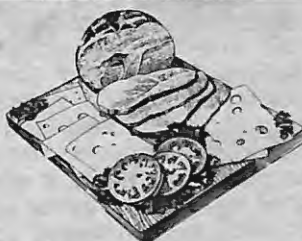
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Hudson Deluxe Turkey Breast	\$1.99 Lb.
Hudson Turkey Pastrami	\$1.99 Lb.
Hoffmann's Super Sharp Cheese	\$3.99 Lb.



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Peppers	89¢ Lb.
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Plum Tomatoes	89¢ Lb.
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Bananas	39¢ Lb.
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Letters To The Editor

Mr. Edward Squazza Is "Agawam's Angel"

To The Editor:

You gave us a place
We can "finally call home."

A place to "at last
rest our old weary bones.

When medals and ceremony
have come to the bend,

you'll parade us with honor,
to a great peaceful place.

A gift from a man
who never went off to war,
whose gardens fed our families
while we protected our shores.

His sacrifice nonetheless
of our time off this land.

His loyalty to this country
is forever, no end.

Thank you so very much, Mr. Edward Squazza.
Paula E. Provost
October 8, 1997

Remember, Your Vote Does Indeed Make A Difference

To The Editor:

I have never written a letter to the editor of any newspaper, but I feel compelled to after reading an article in the *Springfield Union News* a few weeks ago.

In this article, a gentleman stated (this is not a direct quote) that there are those people who feel they do not want to waste their vote on someone who is not considered a winnable candidate. This comment disturbed me so much that I am writing this letter, as I feel no one's vote is a waste if you believe in who you are voting for. Of course, everyone would like their candidate(s) to win, but even if they don't, I certainly do not consider my vote a waste.

The person who made this statement ran for office in Agawam's first mayoral race. And even though this person did not win, I never regretted voting for him. I did not feel my vote was wasted.

Please don't let others tell you who to vote for. Get the facts for yourself. Don't believe what others tell you about someone; find out for yourself. Get involved.

When someone tells me something negative about a candidate, I ask them where they got their information from. I then ask them to show me **substantial** proof of what they are saying is true. If they cannot do this, it is nothing more than a rumor.

Don't let anyone ever insult your intelligence by telling you that a certain candidate is not winnable, and that you are wasting your vote by

voting for them. What they are really saying is that you are not intelligent enough to make your own decision.

Whether you agree with me or not, please remember to go vote. **Your vote does make a difference.** Thank you for listening.

Respectfully,
Gail Russo
Feeding Hills

Cheers & Jeers Regarding "Piece Of The Pie '97"

To The Editor:

Cheers to E.B.'s Restaurant in Agawam and Fran's Restaurant in Feeding Hills for sharing a Piece of the Pie.

"Piece of the Pie '97" is a day in which participating restaurants share 10 percent to fight hunger. All proceeds benefit The Food Bank.

Please stop by E.B.'s and Fran's Restaurants on Wednesday, October 22nd, and help to fight hunger in Western Massachusetts.

Jeers that E.B.'s and Fran's are the only participating restaurants in our town. Shame on you. Such a simple way to fight hunger and you are not a part of it.

Sally M. Loos
Agawam

Mayor Johnson Brings Consistency To Projects

To The Editor:

I'd like to express my thoughts on the upcoming general election.

One of the pieces of unfinished business in our city is a new building for our Department of Public Works. My husband and I owned a business in that area in the late 1970's. We knew then that they needed new facilities!

Since this is part of our Mayor's projected improvements, I would ask my fellow citizens to reelect Christopher Johnson so that he can go forward with these projects. We need consistency in our city improvement plans.

A new DPW garage is an "a number one" priority with the Mayor.

Sincerely,
Virginia Lake
Agawam

A Campaign Based Upon Issues Is The Right Course

To The Editor:

I started this past holiday weekend in the usual manner at Fitness First, where there is a cross section of people from town and conversations commonly range from sports to business, current affairs, and (of course) local politics.

Among the conversations I had that day, one stood out in my mind. A gentleman remarked to me that he was sorry that I did not make the cut for council but conveyed to me that it was his belief that "in order to win elections in this town you need to run a dirty campaign and mine was too clean." Another person remarked that there were wild rumors about me made by an anti-Berkshire Power group.

I expressed to all who extended their regrets that I did not weather the storm of the primary that I was still a candidate for the town council and that I would continue to seek a position on the council as a write-in candidate. In deep reflection over the last few days, in light of the rumors circulating regarding the issues concerning the CCBA and Berkshire Power, I would like to take this opportunity to voice my thoughts on these

issues.

Berkshire Power and the CCBA:

I have not been opposed to the concept of a power plant being built in Agawam. However, I have been and remain opposed to the siting of this plant. I also did not believe that the in-lieu of tax deal that was offered the city was in our best interest. I have always believed that the citizens of Agawam should have the right to have a say on whether or not they support Berkshire Power through a referendum question.

We also must be practical. If a power plant is to come, then it is only good prudent business practice to open lines of communication and not to create an "obstructionist" atmosphere so that the best arrangements can be made between the abutters, the city, and the power plant. I have found that some people feel that open communication is the same as support. I do not believe that this is true because where there is communication and debate on an issue, there is hope for negotiating the best deal for all concerned.

The reality of the Berkshire Power issue is clear. The siting of the plant will be determined by the Department of Public Utilities and the courts. The mayor will negotiate the contract arrangements and those arrangements will be ratified by the city council. Building permits and fuel storage permits and/or special use permits will be granted by the local permitting authorities.

I have raised the issues above with some of the candidates for the town council and the issue that there could be strong conflict of interests because of the personal gain that they would have in dealing with this subject matter should they sit on the council. Of the most concern to me is with Gina Letellier and Louis Russo, since they are both executive board members of the Democratic Town Committee and executive board members of the CCBA, fighting Berkshire Power. In my opinion, the line between these two groups has appeared, at times, to have become blurred as a result of group discussions and some actions taken.

Furthermore, Gina Letellier is one of the original attorneys hired to fight Berkshire Power by the CCBA. Gina Letellier drafted the current answer and counterclaim to the pending Berkshire Power lawsuit against the CCBA and, as a result, has made thousands of dollars and continues to bill thousands of dollars to the

SEE LETTERS - Page 5...

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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Sunday, October 19th
Ag. Senior Games Athletes' Pancake Breakfast
At Agawam Senior Center
8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

Monday, October 20th
Parents' Meeting on substance abuse
prevention at Agawam Jr. High School
6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, October 21st
Agawam Junior Women's Club meeting
At Captain Charles Leonard House
7:30 p.m.
(Program topic: pumpkin painting)

Thursday, October 23rd
Catholic Women's Macaroni Supper
At St. John's Parish Ctr., 833 Main Street
4:30 to 7:00 p.m.

Monday, October 27th
Agawam/Feeding Hills Chapter of AARP
At Agawam Senior Center
1:00 p.m.



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LETTERS - from Page 4...

CCBA. These and other attorney's fees are the sole responsibility of the four remaining abutters.

Louis Russo and other candidates for council, including myself, are currently plaintiffs in a suit against Berkshire Power, and I believe, as a result, we would also be prevented from taking part in any vote or discussion, if elected, dealing with Berkshire Power.

I have raised these issues because many of these candidates are running for election based upon their anti-Berkshire Power beliefs; however, it is likely that they would be prevented from discussing or voting on any issue dealing with Berkshire Power if elected to the council, based on conflict of interest guidelines.

While I have supported the right to speak out on issues of importance, I cannot agree with or condone what has been taking place in our town with personal attacks on the character of individuals who might be in disagreement. We must always speak to issues and facts and not personalities.

Based on the above beliefs, it seems that I have been labeled a Berkshire Power sympathizer. While I still prefer that the power plant not be built where proposed, I have found in speaking with the President of Berkshire Power that he would prefer to work with the remaining abutters regarding their concerns for their property in an atmosphere of cooperation. It may be time to stop the idea of an all or nothing scenario where they win and we lose or we win and they lose and try for a win-win situation of coexistence through communication and negotiation.

I have been speaking about these issues and voicing my opinions to the aforementioned individuals over the last several months to try to bring some positive perspective and closure for the remaining abutters whose lives have been on an emotional roller coaster for some time now. It is time to take political aspirations out of the issue of Berkshire Power and start applying some practical common sense in dealing with the individual lives of the people in that neighborhood.

Win or lose, I still believe that a campaign based upon issues and not personalities is the right course of action in this or any election.

Abe Kasparian

Write-in candidate for Agawam City Council

Servis Questions Mayor's Stand On "No New Taxes"

To The Editor:

During the ongoing Mayoral campaign, the current mayor, Chris Johnson, has been bragging about his no new taxes program for the election year.

Your tax rate may have remained the same or even been slightly reduced, but look at the assessed value of your home.

Take a few minutes and pull out your tax bill from eight years ago when the Johnson administration took over. Compare that to this year's tax bill! After you get over the shock, compare your water and sewer bills to those of just eight short years ago.

During Chris's four terms in office, our town's annual budget skyrocketed to more than double the size of the budget when he took over!

Just wait until next year when we, the taxpayers, have to start paying off the bonds on the new fire station, the golf course, the school additions, and Tuckahoe.

What have the taxpayers received in return? A school system that has lost its once-envied position as a leader in education and is ranked near the bottom of the list of similar communities as provided by the State Department of Education.

Our sidewalks are nearly impassable for some of our elderly citizens. Gaping chasms and missing chunks of pavement make even pushing a baby carriage into an obstacle course exercise.

When we finally got a major street paving project, it was, oddly enough, completed just in time for the election.

We were promised that Tuckahoe Turf Farm would be transformed into a wonderful place with soccer fields and abundant recreational opportunities for our children.

Where are the athletic fields? The answer is that they are being rented to a tobacco company! While our tax money is being used to fund the D.A.R.E. program, and while the state and federal government are spending our tax money to fund programs that discourage our youth from smoking, Chris Johnson is renting out the land that was supposed to be athletic fields to a tobacco company!

There is something fundamentally wrong with this twisted logic and misplaced priorities.

On election day, I think that the majority of the voters of Agawam will agree with me that "Eight is Enough" and it's Time For A Change!

Sincerely,

Kent P. Servis
Candidate for Mayor

Thompson Appreciates Support On Primary Day

To The Editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the citizens who came out and voted in the Primary Election last week.

I would also like to express my appreciation for the support which I received in the election. It is an honor to serve Agawam as a City Councilor.

I encourage all voters to vote in the final election to be held on Tuesday, November 4, 1997. With the continued support of voters, I look forward to continuing my service as a City Councilor.

Thank you,

Nancy E. Thompson
Agawam City Councilor

Candidate Young Says Thanks For Primary Support

To The Editor:

I would like to thank everyone who came out to vote last Tuesday, October 7th, in our Town Primary.


My family and I truly appreciate your support and hope that you will again make the effort to vote on election day in November.

I would also like to thank all of my family and friends who have helped and continue to help organize my campaign for Town Council and to all who have made donations.

Thank you,

Robert M. Young
Candidate for Agawam Town Council

SEE LETTERS - Page 6...



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LETTERS - from Page 5...

Local Resident Should Loosen Up & Learn To Enjoy Softball

To The Editor:

This letter is in response to the letter written by Richard Schoolcraft in the October 2nd issue. I wish to respond to his statement that the gray team was, how did he put it, disgusting, repulsive, and despicable.

First, Mr. Schoolcraft, standing on the bench with your glove on is known as "rally caps." This is done by the whole team to cheer the team on. That to me shows great sportsmanship.

As far as the verbal assault on players, we were there every night and never heard anything that we would consider repulsive. "Strike her out, she can't hit" — you'll hear that in any game from either side, whether they are winning or losing.

My daughter is on the gray team and I take great offense to your name-calling. I don't know if you allowed yourself to enjoy ice cream after that game, but if you were there, I am sure you noticed the gray team and the blue team talking and laughing together. They had already forgotten that they had lost and were talking about the next season.

We wish to thank Mr. and Mrs. Borsari and Mr. Peters for their time and effort during the season, and for bringing the girls all the way to the championships. The gray team had a great bunch of girls that had a great season.

I will agree with you on one point, Mr. Schoolcraft. My suggestion for a change to be made by the SHAA officials is that maybe they can consider hiring two umpires for playoff games. This way, an umpire will not have to make a second base call from behind home plate.

Put on some sweats and loosen up a little. Learn how to enjoy softball. It's not so repulsive after all. Maybe next season you can apologize to the gray team for calling them horrible names when you don't even know them.

Pam Colson
Carl Hopkins
Agawam

Gina-Marie Letellier Grateful For Primary Support

To The Editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt thanks to those persons responsible for my success on Primary Election Day.

For those of you who voted for me, thank you, I will not let you down. For those of you that did not vote for me, please let me know what I can do to earn your support.

I want to thank my family and friends who volunteered to work on Primary Day holding signs and getting election returns. Special thanks go out to my parents, Walter "Terry" Letellier and Maryanne Letellier, without whose love and support my victory would not have been possible.

The response since the primary has been equally exciting. Thank you to those who have called to offer support or have made donations. I look forward to seeing everyone at my ziti supper on Thursday, October 23, 1997 at the Polish Club in Feeding Hills.

Tickets are available by calling me at 739-2112 or my parents at 786-4723. Tickets are \$5 for adults, \$3 for seniors and children, or \$15 for a family.

Very truly yours,
Gina-Marie Letellier
Agawam Town Council Candidate

Bitzas Expresses Gratitude For Primary Day Support

To The Editor:

I would like to express my deepest thanks and my greatest appreciation to the voters of Agawam for their support in the primary election.

The voters have once again put their trust in me and I will not disappoint them. I will continue to work very hard with honesty, dignity, cooperation, and professionalism, helping to move Agawam forward in the right direction.

I will continue to work for elderly issues, school improvements, open space, athletic fields, and programs that insure public safety. Also, I will work for the continuation of our road and sidewalk improvements and upgrading our town services without increasing our taxes or imposing any fees on our residents.

With your continued support and the cooperation between the council and the administration, we will be able to accomplish many of these things. Please remember to vote, November 4th.

I would, again, greatly appreciate your vote.

Thank you,
George Bitzas
Agawam City Councilor

Kasparian Thanks Staff Of Dunkin Donuts In Agawam

To The Editor:

I'd like to extend my heartfelt thanks to Mr. John Salema and the staff of Dunkin Donuts in Agawam, once again, for their generous contribution of coffee and donuts for the poll workers and sign holders on primary day.

As I drove around distributing the coffee and donuts, it was a joy to see the camaraderie of the sign holders at each precinct. It didn't seem to matter what "side" anyone was on. All of the sign holders were there for one purpose and that was to offer help to a friend or relative who was running for election.

I would also like to thank all those who came out and cast a vote for me during the primary. Although my name will not be on the ballot in November, I would like to remind each of you that voted for me in the primary and those of you who could not get out to vote in the primary that you can still show your support for me in November by writing my name in on election day.

Should you choose to write me in as a candidate for the council, you only need to lift any one of the slots above the names in the council area and write in Abe Kasparian. The poll workers will assist in answering any questions on exactly how this can be done.

See the Kasparian sign holders at your precinct on November 4th for your pen to cast your write-in ballot for an added alternative to your choices for Town Council.

Once again, a big thank you to Mr. Salema and the staff of Dunkin Donuts and to all those who voted in the primary.

Sincerely,
Abe Kasparian
Candidate for Agawam Town Council

It's Up To All Of Us To Control Our Destiny

To The Editor:

Here we are again — election time ... and time to reflect on our choices we made two years ago. Did we make the right decision? And if not, are we going to make the same mistakes again?

If you have followed the council meetings, you had to have noticed how the minority of the council vote in a block; this same block has deprived you of your Constitutional right on several occasions.

These same councilors have voted in favor of the Mayor's veto not to defend the town's bylaws; they have, time and time again, refused to protect your rights. They voted against your right to put the Berkshire Power issue on the ballot until now; under pressure in an election year, it became politically advantageous.

If you will notice, these same councilors are now running in a block along with the Mayor. Notice the same signs in many locations and around the rotary on a state highway in violation of the laws. Look at the sign that says "No Pedestrians."

Ask these councilors where they stand on Berkshire Power, as this issue will presently have the greatest detrimental effect on our community.

It is no secret that I have been active in the CCBA and have been to all of the public hearings locally and in Boston. I have voiced my opinion on many occasions in the past three years, and will continue to do so.

Our Mayor and his block of councilors have refused to furnish the citizens with legal counsel, thus forcing the citizens to defend their rights at an expense that is rightfully a matter for the town's Legal Department.

Are we going to let 29 percent of the voters con-

trol our destiny, or are we going to get out and vote on November 4th? It's all up to you; don't make the same mistake again, or the town will be back in control of the political machine with the block of five.

Remember to vote on November 4th. You won't get another chance for two years (1999).

Peter Longo
Candidate for Agawam Town Council

Stieg Explains Reasons Why He Didn't Run For Mayor

To The Editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude for the votes I received on October 7th and, also, to explain to the people of Agawam who have approached me in recent weeks and asked why I didn't run for mayor again.

My wife and I sat for many hours discussing this and weighing the pros and cons. We are a family. My family comes first. Our daughter is a freshman in high school and is very active in sports. We all know how fast time flies by and I don't want to miss any of her last four years at home before she goes off to college. I, also, have two elderly parents I recently relocated to Agawam and have to devote a lot of time caring for them.

Since the last election in 1995, I was afforded the opportunity of employment for a very good company which raised another issue of whether I could take the chance of losing this job, becoming mayor for maybe two years and then out on the street at the age of 55.

As I said before, my first priority is my family, so my wife and I decided I could be just as effective if I ran for City Council. The City Council allows me the opportunity to devote my time to my family and to serve my community.

For the past two years, I have been speaking out on various issues which affect the lives of all the citizens of Agawam. My desire is to serve my community with honesty, integrity, and fairness and to bring to the council independent thought and positive cooperation in all matters which affect the citizens of this community.

Your vote counts on November 4th.

Sincerely,
Karl Stieg
Candidate for City Council

Frustration Abounded At Precinct 3 Polling Area

To The Editor:

WHERE DO YOU GO TO VOTE AT PRECINCT 3? That was the question I asked as I entered the parking lot at the Agawam High School. There were no visible signs to show you where to go.

Thanks to the help of one person who was holding a sign for one of the candidates, I was given directions.

There was one sign halfway down the parking lot and one more straight ahead on the chain link fence. These signs were on plain white paper with "Voter Parking" written on them.

I am sure some people left quite frustrated. I hope that this situation will be corrected for the November 4th election.

Lynn A. Chicoine
Feeding Hills

LETTERS - continued to Page 7...

HOMETOWN CANDLE COMPANY

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LETTERS - from Page 6...

Jill Simpson Says Thanks For Primary Day Support

To The Editor:
To The Voters Of Agawam:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the voters of Agawam for their support in the City Council Primary on October 7th.

It has been a privilege to serve you for the past four years. With your support on November 4th, I will continue to work hard for the betterment of our community. I will also continue to be accessible and responsive to your concerns.

Whether or not you support me, I urge all of you to exercise your constitutional right to be heard and to cast your ballot on Election Day, November 4th.

Sincerely,
Jill Simpson
Feeding Hills

Waving Campaign Signs Creates Dangerous Situation

To The Editor:

Each election year, candidates seeking public office stand at various intersections in Feeding Hills, Agawam, and at the rotary on Route 57 (South End Bridge), waving their campaign signs at passing motorists.

This practice is very distracting, dangerous, and hazardous to the motorist and pedestrians at these locations and is only done for the candidate's name recognition without regard to the safety of the public.

Aside from the safety issue, it is unlawful to campaign or hold or wave signs on any state highway which includes (specifically) the rotary at the South End Bridge, Route 57.

The State Department of Transportation stated that it is illegal to have advertising signs or pedestrians on state highways and the rotary (South End Bridge, Route 57) which is posted at this location.

I am requesting that the Agawam Police Dept. (786-4767) and the Massachusetts State Police Dept. (736-8390) enforce this law.

I am asking the citizens to join with me to call the police departments when they see candidates or their supporters breaking the law.

Karl Stieg
Agawam

Agawam High Band Asks For Support Of Bottle Drive

To The Editor:

To The Citizens Of Agawam & Feeding Hills:

The Agawam High School Band will be having a can drive on Saturday, October 18th. (That's this Saturday).

There are many expenses involved in getting the band/guard to all of its competitions and so we are asking the town for help. Band members will be driving around neighborhoods throughout the town and collecting redeemable cans and bottles.

If you would like to donate your cans and bottles that you have collected, have them ready and a band member will visit your house to pick them up. You can also drop the cans off outside of Dave's Soda and Pet Food City (between 11:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.), where the can drive is taking place.

If for some reason, your house is not visited by a band member and you would still like to donate your cans and bottles, please call Tamara Watson at the Agawam High School Music Department.

We thank all of the kind people in the town who can help us and we will make Agawam proud.

Sincerely yours,
Shawn Sherry, Carolyn Cline
Band Co-Presidents

Council Passes First Reading On Moratorium On Cell Phone Towers In Town

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

At last week's meeting, Town Council went along with the Planning Board's request for a four month moratorium on cell phone towers after one councilor agreed to reconsider his vote.

With Councilors Dennis Perry, Gary Suffriti, and Thomas Ennis absent, approval of the first reading of the ordinance putting the cell phone towers on hold hinged on agreement among the eight councilors present. Eight votes are needed for passage of a zoning ordinance.

Town Received Several Applications

After receiving several applications for site plan approval, the Planning Board requested the moratorium so officials can take the necessary time to consider zoning changes to regulate the towers.

The zoning code currently has no provisions to deal with cell phone towers. And for a few tense moments at the council's October 8th meeting, it appeared likely the call for a moratorium had reached a dead end.

Casting the lone dissenting vote, Councilor Joseph Langone said, "I've stated that I would be in opposition to any zoning by-law amendments which would put a stranglehold on any legitimate business coming to town and I'm going to stick by my words."

Council Vice-President Edward A. Caba urged Langone to reconsider his vote "for the good of the town."

After a five minute recess, Langone agreed to change his vote. This came after discussing the matter with Planning Board member Frank Lawlor and Council President Kent Servis.

"In light of the information I received during the recess, I will reconsider my vote. But I reserve the right to vote no when a proposal (to amend the zoning codes) reaches the council," Langone said.

Admissibility Bill Clears State Senate

Senate Assistant Majority Leader Linda J. Melconian (D-Springfield) has announced Senate passage (October 7th) of her legislation which would allow for a narrow exemption to the hearsay rule in criminal or civil procedures.

Melconian's proposal would allow the introduction of diary statements as long as the court determines certain factors are met. The statements must be trustworthy, describe the infliction or threat of physical injury, and be from a person who is unavailable as a witness.

In order to be admitted, the statement cannot be more than five years-old, and must be consistent with the threat of physical injury.

Melconian believes this exemption is necessary to prove a history of abuse in certain violent crimes.

"Many times, people who have been abused are afraid to come forward, and their stories are hidden until it is too late," Melconian said. "This bill would allow for a narrow exemption to the hearsay rule to provide a voice to those who have been abused, but are no longer able to defend themselves."

"I have always been a strong advocate for Domestic Violence Prevention programs, and I will continue to promote methods of combating abuse," she continued. "This legislation is yet another way to find the truth in cases involving a past history of violence."

Melconian stresses that this legislation only pertains to information involving physical abuse. All other diary statements would still be inadmissible.

The Legislation now moves to the House floor for consideration.

Servis said the federal government does not allow communities to ban cell phone towers. However, communities can possibly regulate the size, design, and location of such structures.

Town Would Be Powerless

"If we don't pass the moratorium, we will be powerless to stop any type of structure without a lengthy and costly court battle, which we probably can't win," Servis said. "Without the moratorium, we'll probably saddle the community with a structure no one would be proud of."

Planning Director Deborah Dachos said a committee is already working behind the scenes to draft an ordinance regulating cell towers (that would be able to withstand a court challenge). Without the moratorium, she noted, any zoning amendment approved by the council would not apply to the three requests currently going through the permitting process at the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA).

The Planning Board has already approved two site plans for cell phone towers. One plan, submitted by Bell Atlantic NYNEX Mobile, calls for the construction of a 130 foot lattice tower on Meadow Street near the South End Bridge; the second plan to be approved by planners allows Omnipoint to build a 180-foot monopole on Provin Mountain. A third site plan was returned to Omnipoint with a request for more information.

According to Mayor Christopher C. Johnson, the moratorium will apply to all requests pending in the permitting process, including those with site plan approval (because none of the proposals have received a special permit from the ZBA).

Under state law, Johnson said a proposed amendment to the zoning code would affect applications that have not received a ZBA special permit at the time the amendment is first advertised by the Town Council.

Public Information Mtg. To Be Held For State Vets' Cemetery

On October 22, 1997 at 7:00 p.m., a public informational meeting will be held at the Agawam Senior Center for the future state veterans' cemetery. The cemetery will be located on Main Street in Agawam across from River Road on land donated by Mr. Squazza.

Landscape architects and architects from the L.A. Group and Cambridge Seven, as well as representatives from the Department of Veterans' Services, will be on hand to discuss preliminary concepts, answer questions, and receive input from veterans and the general public.

Anyone interested in this project is urged to attend. For further information, call the Department of Veterans' Services, Western Hampden District, at Agawam Town Hall, (413) 786-0400, extension 236/237.

Last Date For Applying For Water Connections

The Agawam Department of Public Works has announced that October 24, 1997 is the last date for applying for water connections, water connection renewals, sanitary sewer connections, or storm drain connections for installation prior to this winter.

Connections applied for after this date will not be installed until the spring of 1998.

This notice does not apply to the homes in areas where connections have previously been installed to the property line.

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SATISFACTION GUARANTEED



Great Fall Day, Gov. Cellucci Hail Vets' Cemetery

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

Local and state officials joined veterans' organizations from across the state for last week's groundbreaking ceremony at the first Massachusetts Memorial Veterans' Cemetery on Main Street.

A made-to-order fall day served as the backdrop for Acting Governor A. Paul Cellucci's pronouncement of "Edward Squazza Day" to honor the 81 year-old retired farmer whose gift of the 57-acre site made it possible for Agawam to host the first state veterans' cemetery.

Honored for his extraordinary generosity in citations from Town Council and the State Senate and House of Representatives, Squazza received a standing ovation at the groundbreaking ceremony. Although not a veteran himself, Squazza donated his land for a military burial ground in the belief that not enough could be done to honor veterans.

"This is one of the proudest days in Agawam's history to be playing host to the state's first veterans' cemetery," Mayor Christopher C. Johnson said. "All of the citizens of Agawam owe a debt of tribute to Edward Squazza. Without his generosity we wouldn't be hosting this facility."

Marching units from all branches of the armed services launched the ceremonies with a Parade of the Colors from VFW, Post 1632 on South Street to the cemetery entrance at the intersection of Main Street and River Road.

At the conclusion of the groundbreaking ceremony, a crowd of about 1,000 gathered for a picnic lunch at The Grove at Riverside Park.

At the cemetery site, veterans from World War II, Korea, Vietnam, and the Persian Gulf Wars participated in saluting the flag and reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Since learning from a constituent that the only veterans' cemetery in the state is located three hours away on Cape Cod, Senator Linda Melconian said she has championed the cause of creating a burial ground for veterans in Western Massachusetts.

"...A Beacon Of Light For Families"

"A Western Massachusetts Veterans' Cemetery is a way for us all to give back, to provide a memorial that will be a beacon of light for the families of the deceased. This is a memorial for the entire region to embrace. I am proud to have been a part of it," Senator Melconian said.

State Representative Daniel F. Keenan said the cemetery will address the needs of Western Mass. veterans and ease the burdens placed on their families when faced with the inconvenience of traveling to the Cape Cod town of Bourne for interment and subsequent visits, as well as the additional costs for transportation and the funeral committal cortege.

According to Robert C. McKean, director of External Affairs for the Massachusetts Department of Veterans' Services, the cemetery is expected to open by the summer of 2000 and will have the capacity for 40,000 gravesites.

Based on information from the U.S. Veterans' Administration, it is expected that 48,625 veterans from Western Massachusetts will die in the 25-year period from 2000 to 2025.

The initial development of the veterans' cemetery will cost an estimated \$3.8 million, but federal matching funds amount to \$2.1 million leaving the state's net expenditure at \$1.7 million.

Approximately 50 acres of the site will be used for the cemetery.



IN TOP PHOTO, State Senator Daniel F. Keenan and State Senator Linda J. Melconian present state citations to Farmer Edward Squazza; IN PHOTO BELOW, Senator Linda Melconian, Veterans' Agent Ruth Bitzas, Palmer Veterans' Agent Peter Pappas, and State Rep. Daniel Keenan participate in groundbreaking ceremonies last Wednesday. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



G. WILLIAM JAYNE, director of the State Cemetery Grants Program, holds the \$2 million-plus check with Robert C. McKean, director of External Affairs for the Mass. Dept. of Veterans' Services. IN PHOTO BELOW, the U.S. Marine Corps. Color Guard stands at attention during the groundbreaking ceremonies. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



THE AIR FORCE BAND OF LIBERTY performs at groundbreaking ceremonies for the new State Veterans' Cemetery off Main Street. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Best local news...



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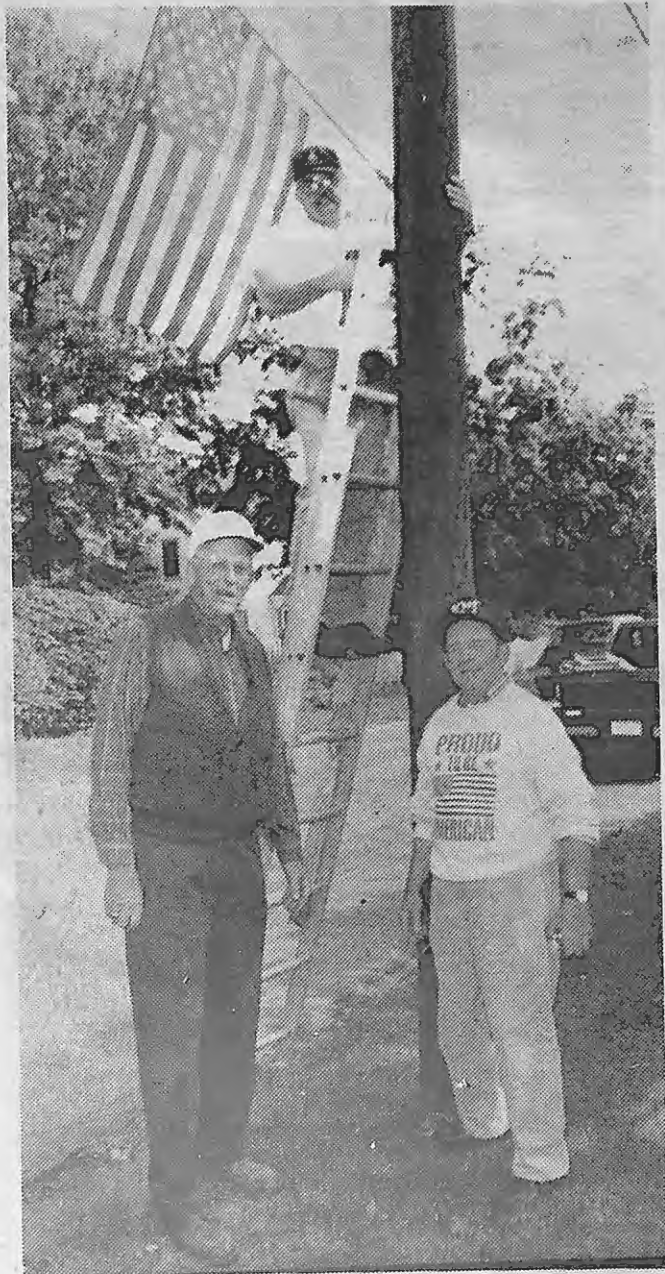
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Praise The Vets!!!



IN TOP PHOTO, town residents Al Kellogg, Ed Kellogg, and Denny Buell put up flags on South Street on October 4th in anticipation of the October 7th groundbreaking ceremonies at the new State Veterans' Cemetery off Main Street; IN PHOTO BELOW, top officials hold the bacon for the new vets' cemetery, from left - Thomas J. Hudner, state commissioner of Veterans' Services; Christopher C. Johnson, Agawam mayor; Paul Cellucci, governor; Linda J. Melconian, state senator; and Daniel F. Keenan, state rep. RELATED PHOTOS ON PAGES 1 & 8. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Police Citizen's Academy Now Underway



LOCAL CITIZENS WHO ARE attending the Agawam Police Department's Citizen's Academy gather for a group photo with Officer Donald Gallerani (left), and Police Chief Robert Campbell and Mayor Christopher C. Johnson (right). Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Agawam Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Thursday, October 23, 1997 at 7:45 PM in the Faolin Peirce Community Room, Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA. The purpose of this hearing is to hear the petition of the Town of Agawam for work to be performed on River Road, subject to the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act.

By Order of Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman
Agawam Conservation Commission
Published: October 16, 1997

TOWN OF AGAWAM AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Agawam Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Thursday, October 23, 1997 at 7:30 p.m. in the Faolin Peirce Community Room, Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA. The purpose of this hearing is to hear the petition of Champagne for work to be performed on Lot 4 Cynthia Place, subject to the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act.

By Order of Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman
Agawam Conservation Commission
Published: October 16, 1997

Paid Political Ad

Paid Political Ad

Committee to Elect

Gina Marie Letellier

Your Councilor

Ziti Supper

Thursday, October 23, 1997

5:00 To 8:00 P.M.

Polish American Club

Route 57, Southwick St., Feeding Hills

Donation \$5.00

Seniors & Children \$3.00

Families \$15.00

Paid For By Gina Marie Letellier, Agawam

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC HEARING TOWN OF AGAWAM

In accordance with Article 8, Section 8-1(b) of the Agawam Town Charter, the Agawam City Council will conduct a public hearing on Monday, October 20, 1997 at 7:30 P.M. at the Agawam Middle School, 68 Main Street, Agawam, MA in regards to Berkshire Power Development Corporation and to provide additional information to the council and residents and to have an official vote on whether or not a majority of the city council supports such a proposal, to build a power plant in Agawam.

Ursula Retzler
Clerk of the Council

Published: October 16, 1997

Campaign '97

Substance Abuse & Gangs Need To Be Addressed Says Bitzas

"Drugs, gangs, and alcohol are a nightmare for every American family, no matter where they live; in a large city or a small town," said Agawam Town Council candidate George Bitzas in a press statement.

"The problems exist everywhere. We must continue our efforts to be alert to the signs and educate our children about the devastating effects these things can have on them and their families.

"I was the first councilor to call for the much-needed expansion of drug and gang education at the Junior and senior High Schools," said Bitzas. "I also called for more protection in our schools and the presence of a police officer in our High School. Today, we have these expanded programs and a police officer present inside and outside of our High School.

"He has become an advisor and protector to our children as well as a friend. This program is proving to be working out favorably. We must continue to be alert and act to combat the drugs, gangs, and violent activities. We must be more aggressive and work together to have more parent-teacher-student workshops.

"Our children need our help and we need the help from the professional to know how to recognize and combat these problems. In the past, I have worked very closely with the police chief and the PTOs to set up gang awareness workshops at the Middle School and Robinson Park School," said Bitzas.

"The panel was very impressive, with many professional people from the Department of Youth Services, the District Attorney William Bennett, Sheriff Michael Ashe, and the Chief of Police of Agawam, along with our own detectives. It was an eye-opener for every one of us. We must not let our guard down and we must continue and improve these programs in order to protect our children.

"With your support, I will be able to continue my efforts to back these types of programs that help us as a community to combat these very serious problems. I am a parent of school-age children and like you, I have many fears and concerns. Our children need our advice and support and we must give it to them. The School Department, the Police Department, the Mayor's Office, and the City Council must work together to educate, support, and to protect our youth and guide them in the right direction," concluded Bitzas.

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM

INVITATION FOR SNOW REMOVAL QUOTES AGAWAM HOUSING AUTHORITY

Open competitive quotes sought for snow plowing and snow removal at seven locations until Monday, October 20, 1997 at 3:30 P.M. at the office of the Agawam Housing Authority at 66 Meadowbrook Manor, Agawam, MA 01001. Specifications are available at the office upon request. Acceptable contractor(s) will supply necessary insurance documentation as required.

Published: October 16, 1997

Paid Political Ad

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Thank You For Your Support And Confidence

Your Continued Help In November
Will Be Deeply Appreciated

Ron Brown - Candidate, City Council



Paid for by Committee to Elect Ron Brown



TOWN COUNCILOR GEORGE BITZAS was holding a thank-you sign at the intersection of Springfield, Main, and Suffield Streets the morning after his fine showing in the town primary.

Jack Devine Disputes Endorsement Ad From Democratic Town Committee

In a written statement to *The Agawam Advertiser News*, Jack Devine of Campbell Drive, a member of the Agawam Democratic Town Committee, disputed a political advertisement sponsored by the Democratic Town Committee that endorsed several Democrats who were running for office in the town's Primary on Tuesday, October 7th.

In the October 2nd advertisement published in *The AAN*, the Democratic Town Committee included Devine's name at the bottom of the ad as an endorser of the various candidates being endorsed by the town committee.

Devine said, "I never authorized my name to be used in this advertisement. I was not present at the meeting when this was voted on by the town committee and no one called or asked me about listing my name on this ad.

"I am proud to be a Democrat but I do not agree with all of the endorsements made by the town committee. If I had been called or asked, there was no way I would have agreed to have my name listed in an advertisement of this type," added Devine.

Family Supper

Clowns

* Ziti Dinner *

Balloons

Fun — Games — Entertainment

Magician

Re-Elect

Face
Painting

Rosemary Sandlin School Committee

"Measuring Our Children's Success"

October 23rd — 5:00 To 7:00 P.M.

Partners Restaurant

485 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills

\$10.00 Per Family

For Tickets, Call Allison Or Frank At 786-2929

Paid for by the Committee To Elect Rosemary Sandlin. Frank C. Sacco, Treasurer.

Paid Political Ad

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Campaign '97 - continued...

Servis Takes Issue With Johnson Over Schools

Mayoral Candidate Kent Servis has released the following press statement regarding the state of education in the Agawam Public Schools.

"Our current Mayor has boasted about his commitment to quality education here in Agawam. A closer look at Chris Johnson's real record on education tells an altogether different story.

"I have always felt that the Mayor should be in tune with the issues facing the School Committee, but should not be the chairman of this most important election board. It is too convenient to gut the school budget before it becomes a public document, and then state that he fully endorses the school budget.

"It is too convenient to have a Mayor make the budget cuts during the process, so that he does not have to take the political heat for cutting back on the schools after the budget becomes public. This way, our mayor has been able to endorse the school budget after he has filleted the meat from the instructional categories.

"For the last seven years, Chris Johnson has been the Mayor and the Chairman of the School Committee. During his watch, we have seen the level of performance dwindle. This is not the fault of the dedicated teachers and principals. It is the result of underfunding the instructional accounts in the budget.

"We have children and young adults in our schools who did not have enough textbooks and were forced to share. Our teachers have been digging into their own pockets to buy needed supplies. Such basic items as pencils and paper should have been available. Our teachers should not have to go begging to parents and civic-minded businesses for such basic things.

"Test scores plummeted during Chris Johnson's reign as Mayor and School Committee Chairman. Recent reports in the media are deceiving to the public in general and parents in particular.

"When the MEEPS test scores were compared with those of 34 similar communities as provided by the State Department of Education, Agawam finished LAST in math and near the bottom in every other subject.

"This year, the voters were told that the scores improved dramatically. The fact is that a different test was administered. Riverside Publishing Co., the people who publish the Iowa Test of Basic Skills, told the story in their own report to the schools!"

Servis continued, "The Iowa test is an easier test. On the back of the reporting sheets that are given to the school districts, is a disclaimer. It states that the Iowa Test of Basic Skills does not correlate with the MEEPS test and cannot be used for any valid comparisons between scores!

"I wonder how many parents are aware that we fixed the test score problem by using an easier test?

"Our schools suffer from many problems that date back to the accreditation review of 10 years ago. Most of the recommendations were not followed or implemented. It is only in Chris Johnson's desperate bid for a fifth consecutive term that these problems are being addressed.

"I am pleased that we are finally getting the much-needed additions to the schools. The Mayor would like to take sole credit for this, but it is the various advisory groups, the whole School Committee, and the City Council who made this a reality.

"Why did our schoolchildren have to wait for almost eight years to get the town started on the road to quality education?

"While the Mayor proudly takes all the credit, he must also accept his share of the blame. Retired Superintendent of Schools Bernard Ryder, testifying under oath at a court trial, told the real story! Ryder testified that in his 40 years of experience, he had never seen a worse run school!

"We need to reduce class size and provide more individual attention to students' needs.

"We need to make sure that our children have the materials they need to participate fully in the learning process.

"We must empower the teachers and principals to raise expectations and accomplish the new higher goals.

"We must allow the teachers and other educational professionals to speak up and tell us what they need to do the job, without fear of reprisals.

"As your Mayor, I pledge to never intimidate the members of the School Committee into accepting just the Mayor's agenda.

"As your Mayor, I will work to ensure that we do not simply put 'feel good' programs and 'visible to voters' projects ahead of what is really important in educating our children.

SEE SERVIS - Page 12...

Simpson Announces Reelection Bid For Ag. Town Council

In a press statement released this week, Agawam Town Councilor Jill P. Simpson said, "I would like to formally announce my intentions to seek reelection to the Agawam Town Council.

"I am Councilor Jill P. Simpson. I reside at 24 Pleasant Valley Road, Feeding Hills, with my husband, David, and our two sons, Brian and Jeffery. Brian attends fifth grade at the Agawam Middle School, and Jeff attends second grade at Robinson Park School.

"I hold a Bachelor of Arts in Social Relations from Anna Maria College, Paxton, MA, and a Master's in Elementary Education from American International College in Springfield.

"I am a member of the Agawam Counseling Center Advisory Board and the Agawam Middle School Council. I am also a Den Teacher for Cub Scout Pack 75, and a CCD Teacher for second grade at Sacred Heart Church.

"As your City Councilor, I served as Council Vice-President, and I chaired the School Budget Subcommittee for four years. I have also been chairperson of the Zoning Review Committee and a member of the Ordinance and Utility Committees.

"In my 13 years as a resident of Feeding Hills, I have met many wonderful people. Through these contacts, I feel that I have been in touch with the pulse of the community. I have been accessible and responsive to citizens who have expressed their concerns. While I have not agreed with every citizen's opinion, I have always listened with an open mind and explained my own viewpoint.

"As your Councilor, I will continue to work hard to make Agawam a better place to live. I ask for your vote on November 4th so that I can continue my efforts on your behalf," concluded Simpson.

Stieg Signs For Town Council Now Available For Pick-Up

Signs for "STIEG FOR COUNCIL" are now available. If you would like a lawn sign, or help with the campaign, please call Judy at 786-6964.

If you would like to contribute to Karl's campaign, please send your contribution to Stieg for Council, 24 Edgewood Lane, Agawam, MA 01001.

Best local news...



TOWN COUNCILOR JILL SIMPSON is pictured with her husband, David, and their sons, Brian and Jeffery.

Servis Campaign Sets "Meet The Candidate" At Headquarters

City Council President Kent Servis, candidate for Mayor of Agawam, has announced that on Tuesday and Thursday nights he will host a coffee hour at his election headquarters.

Citizens are encouraged to come in and discuss anything that is of concern to them. Servis will be both willing and ready to answer questions on any issue of concern to the voters.

"Servis For Mayor" headquarters is located at 505 Springfield Street in Agawam, in the Hollow Pine Shopping Plaza.

Everyone is encouraged to come, and bring a friend or two. Meet with your next "Mayor" one on one and make an informed decision on election day.

Paid Political Ad

MAKE THE CHANGE TO JOHN NEGRUCCI



Elect **NEGRUCCI**
For **COUNCIL**

*Paid for by the Negrucci Committee
Anthony C. Bonavita, Chairman*

Paid Political Ad

**VOTE FOR
STABILITY
AND
RESPECT
ON
NOVEMBER 4TH**

- Former Union Pension Fund Administrator
- Former President Of Agawam Lions Club
- Three Children Graduated From Agawam School System

Campaign '97 - continued...

Russo Says He's Strong Supporter Of Veterans' Issues

Louis Russo, candidate for Agawam City Council, stated this week, "As a Viet Nam combat veteran, I have always been very supportive of veterans' issues. Also, being active in local veterans' organizations as chaplain and board member, I know and understand the needs and concerns of our veterans."

"I have either initiated or was involved in many of the issues that have affected the veterans of Agawam. A few examples of my involvement include joining the successful march on the state house protesting the state's decision to close the Holyoke Soldier's Home."

"Also, after our local service organizations were continually denied their right to tax exemptions by our town's administration, and ignored by several councilors who supported the administration, I wrote, sponsored, and gained passage of legislation returning the exemption status to our local veterans' organizations."

"Of all my accomplishments on behalf of Agawam's veterans, I am most proudest of my involvement with the construction of Agawam's Veterans' Green, most particularly my involvement with the design and construction of the Veterans' Gazebo. Working with our very dedicated Veterans' Agent and the Veterans' Committee has continued to be a pleasure."

"Most recently," he continued, "I am also proud to have been asked to be a member of the State Veterans' Cemetery Committee and work with the Director of External Affairs for the Department of Veterans' Services. To have helped organize the groundbreaking ceremonies and be involved in the festivities will always remain a memorable event."

"A lot has been done to assist Agawam's veterans, but there is more that can be done. I hope to continue doing all I can in a meaningful way. As a member of the City Council, I will continue to do all I can," concluded Russo.

SERVIS - from Page 11...

"We must bring Agawam back up to standards that we can be proud of. Our children should not be fooled into thinking that they are doing just fine, when in fact they are measuring up to expectations that are far too low."

"As a former science teacher, I know what challenges face our educators as well as our children. As your Mayor, I vow to take the lead in bringing the quality of education back to the position it once enjoyed."

"On election day, when you pull lever number two to vote for Kent Servis, you will be pulling for the future of our children and grandchildren," concluded Servis.

Stieg Will Scrutinize All Budgets That Come Before Council

Karl Stieg, candidate for Agawam City Council, released the following campaign statement this week:

"Over the past few weeks, some candidates for City Council have stated that there have been no increases in property taxes, and even our Mayor states that he 'reduced property taxes in the last two fiscal years.'"

"What is not stated is the large increase in state aid (Cherry Sheet) received or state grants to Agawam which have allowed Agawam to increase, ever so slightly, the average tax rate for residential/commercial property per \$1,000 of assessed valuation."

"The actual tax rate in 1995 for residential property was \$15.56; in 1997, it is \$15.88 — or an INCREASE of two percent. Now, this may sound small in comparison to the increase of 13.7 percent from the tax rate in 1993 to that of this year, but it is still an INCREASE."

"What is very disturbing is that this Council and the previous Council have not CUT ONE PENNY OUT OF THE BUDGETS, and one candidate in particular states he is proud to increase spending in our budgets. Yet, he did not propose any cuts in the budget which could have been made."

"Where does Agawam stand in comparison to other communities in Western Massachusetts? Agawam's average tax bill for the last reportable year (1996) was \$1,837. Agawam has a higher average tax bill (1996) than the following surrounding communities: Ludlow, Southwick, Hadley, Holyoke, Palmer, Easthampton, Springfield, Pittsfield, and Chicopee."

"My 15 years of experience managing and putting together multi-million-dollar budgets in the corporate workplace allows me to take a critical look at the budget."

"I promise the citizens of Agawam that I will carefully scrutinize all budgets to cut any fat or unnecessary expenditure, with the purpose to have a TAX DECREASE while maintaining all necessary funding for all existing programs."

"I strongly believe it is time to reduce wasteful spending, and I will work to that end," concluded Stieg.

"Elect Young Signs" Now Available

"Elect Robert M. Young" signs are still available.

If you'd like to help with a lawn sign, please call Karla at 786-8995.

Ag. Candidates Forum To Be Sponsored By Agawam Chamber

The candidates for School Committee, Town Council, and Mayor have been invited to participate in the "Agawam Candidates Forum" to be held at the Middle School on Wednesday, October 22nd. We cordially invite Agawam voters to attend this informational evening sponsored by the Agawam Chamber of Commerce.

The "Agawam Candidates Forum" will proceed according to the following schedule:

* 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. - "Meet the Candidates."

Refreshments will be served, and the candidates are invited to spend time talking with the voters during this informal gathering time.

* 6:30 to 7:00 p.m. - "School Committee Candidates."

Each candidate will be invited to make a two-minute statement.

* 7:15 to 8:30 p.m. - "Town Council Candidates."

Each candidate will make a 30-second introduction, followed by a question from the moderator, a two-minute response, and a 30-second closing statement.

* 8:45 to 9:15 p.m. - "Mayoral Candidates."

Each candidate will make a one-minute introduction. After both introductions, the moderator will ask the same four questions to each candidate. The candidates will also be given time for a two-minute closing statement.

WWLP-TV22's Brenda Garton will be the moderator. MediaOne will provide LIVE video coverage and tape the forum for re-broadcast prior to election day.

Questions will be developed by the Agawam Chamber program committee and will address current politics in Agawam including (but not limited to) education, government, capital improvements, senior citizen issues, and economic development.

According to Denise Vogel, President of the Agawam Chamber of Commerce and the Agawam Chamber Program Committee, the Agawam Chamber of Commerce is proud to host this "Candidates Forum." The Chamber membership is made up of area businesses, and is involved in this and other projects that will help to develop and improve the economic environment and overall quality of life in Agawam.

Questions can be directed to "Agawam Chamber of Commerce - Candidates Forum," c/o Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce, 1350 Main Street, Springfield, MA 01103, Debra Boronski, VP, Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce, (413) 787-1555.

best local news...

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HE DESERVES OUR VOTE

"FOR AGAWAM'S FUTURE"

RE-ELECT

COUNCILOR **GEORGE BITZAS**

* HONESTY

* INTEGRITY

* DEDICATION



* EXPERIENCE

* LEADERSHIP

* COMPETENCE

The Councilor With The Most Achievements
And A Record That You Can Be Proud Of.

"I would appreciate your vote on Tuesday, November 4th."

Thank you,

George Bitzas

George Bitzas

GEORGE CARES ABOUT AGAWAM

Paid for by George Bitzas.

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Elect Ron Brown Vote November 4th

When elected, one of my first priorities will be to sponsor and push for enactment of an ordinance prohibiting nude or semi-nude live entertainment. Also to prevent the sale of all pornographic material in the Town of Agawam.

**Let's Keep Agawam A
Great Place To Live**



Sponsored by: The Committee to Elect Ron Brown, City Council

Campaign '97 - continued...

Johnson Believes Open Space Enhances Quality Of Life

"I strongly believe that open space adds to the quality of life in a community," stated Mayor Christopher C. Johnson in a press release issued this week.

"I am proud to have permanently preserved nearly 400 acres of open space (the former Tuckahoe Turf Farm and Agawam Country Club) during my tenure as Mayor. Agawam is a community which enjoys a rural hometown character in large part due to the abundance of open space.

"During the 1970's and 1980's, Agawam saw much of its open space converted to single-family homes, condominiums, and commercial strip development. In order for our children and grandchildren to know and enjoy the same agricultural heritage and quality of life that we do, we must continue to preserve open space.

"I also believe that the preservation of open space makes economic sense to the residents of Agawam. The largest asset that most people own is their home, and the value of your home depends in large part on the desirability of the community in which you live.

"Many residents tell me that the reason that they choose to live in Agawam is the fact that it has open space. In order to maintain the value of your home, the community must remain desirable, and to remain desirable we must preserve open space. In addition, as a taxpayer it is less expensive to acquire open space than to provide services to the new residents who will ultimately inhabit it.

"I have a strong record of advocacy for the preservation of open space. That record includes:
- Proposed and strongly advocated for the town acquisition of the former Tuckahoe Turf Farm (approximately 292 acres).

- Proposed and strongly advocated for the town acquisition of the former Agawam Country Club (approximately 107 acres). The town has purchased, improved and operated the Agawam Municipal Golf Course at no cost to the taxpayers. In fact,

SEE JOHNSON - Page 14...

Linda Galarneau Seeking To Return To School Committee

Linda Galarneau of 24 Sycamore Terrace, Agawam, announces her candidacy for reelection to the School Committee.

Galarneau states that as a School Committee member, her focus has always been on the students and how the school community could provide an educational environment that would meet the needs of all students so that all can meet with success. "I am proud to say that I, along with my colleagues, administration, and staff, have worked diligently toward meeting those needs."

During the past 2½ years, work on rewriting the entire curriculum, kindergarten through grade 12, has taken place and is near completion. In addition, a director of curriculum was hired to oversee the coordination and implementation of the curriculum for the entire system.

Galarneau further stated, "Our technology is virtually state-of-the-art in the classroom, and our school system is considered a leader amongst other school systems in this area. A foreign language program starting at the Middle School level and continuing through to the High School will expose all students to a second language."

Five years ago, a Space Needs Committee was formed. As a member of this committee, Galarneau investigated the space needs and overcrowding in the schools. "I am proud to say that our work and planning has culminated into the biggest school building project ever." Galarneau states this project will bring renovations and additions to all elementary schools and the High School with completion slated for September 1998.

As one of two School Committee members on the Time and Learning Committee, Galarneau indicated that through negotiations with teachers, administrators, and the union, two extra instructional days were added to the school calendar, giving valuable student/teacher contact time.

"Once again, I am respectfully asking for your

check our classified pages today...



LINDA GALARNEAU

vote of confidence so that I may not only see through the completion of the work already started, but to also continue the work of restructuring our schools in order to meet the demands of the changing times in which we live, and to bring a newer level of learning and shared decision-making in our school system. I will do my very best to justify your vote of confidence."

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Paid Political Ad

When Chris took office as Mayor, the town's Standard & Poor's Bond Rating was:

BBB

Under Chris' leadership in the early 1990's, the town's Standard & Poor's Bond Rating improved to:

A

"The rating upgrade ... reflects **strong financial management** demonstrated by the ability to maintain a stable financial position during the recent economic recession."

Standard & Poor's - May 15, 1995

Under Chris' leadership over the past two years, the town's Standard & Poor's Bond Rating improved again to:

A+

"The town has demonstrated **conservative financial management** since the recession of the early 1990's ... up to and including plans for the current fiscal year. This **prudence and sound management** has resulted in steady growth in the town's unreserved fund balance and stabilization fund."

Standard & Poor's - June 13, 1997



**Chris Johnson
Mayor**

Please Vote On Tuesday, November 4th

If you would like a Johnson for Mayor lawn sign, please call Anna at 786-6297. Thank you.

Re-Elect

Re-Elect

Roberta G. Doering for School Committee



Pull
Lever
29 A

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29 A

- Chair - Policy Subcommittee
- Past President - Mass. Association Of School Committees
- Past President - National School Boards Association
- Executive Committee - National Board YMCA of the USA
- Executive Committee - National Board Professional Teaching Standards

Dedicated • Experienced • Qualified

Paid for by Dr. James A. Doering
915 River Road

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Campaign '97 - continued...



ROBERTA G. DOERING

Roberta G. Doering Seeks Reelection To School Committee

Roberta G. Doering of River Road is announcing her candidacy for reelection to the Agawam School Committee.

In a press release issued this week, she said, "The School Committee has the difficult task of providing an effective education for each and every student, and at the same time, making sure the tax dollars allocated are wisely spent. We cannot forget that in the business of running the schools, the final product is the student.

"I believe in public school education, and I believe that local governance of our schools by the School Committee is the public's best assurance that policy setting, curriculum development, fiscal planning, and district management are reflective of the needs of the individual community.

"The public schools have provided for generations of our citizens, helping them to become productive members of society. Everyone in the community should be vitally concerned about what happens in the schools as it reflects the quality of life for all of its residents.

"However," Mrs. Doering continued, "the school building is not the only area where learning takes place. It has to be a cooperative effort by the family, school, and the entire community. Agawam is fortunate that our city offers many educational opportunities for young and old to enjoy both during and after the school day.

"I believe that the School Committee should develop a clear vision for our public schools and establish an organizational framework that allows students to attain their maximum potential. We must provide a safe, secure environment for learning to occur. The Committee must be accountable to the community for accomplishing its vision, and we should serve as the leading advocates on behalf of our students and the public schools.

"I have had the opportunity to represent Agawam and to bring a local perspective to the national scene by being elected to serve as President of the National School Boards Association.

"I feel with my experience, concern, and dedication, I can continue to make a contribution. Once again, I ask for your support in order that I may continue to work for our children and the future leaders of our community," concluded Mrs. Doering.

Agawam Democrats To Sponsor Debate For Mayor Candidates

The Agawam Democratic Committee will be holding a Mayoral Debate on Tuesday, October 21, 1997 at 7:00 p.m. at the Middle School on Main Street. The debate will be televised live by Media One and rerun at additional times to be announced.

The debate will feature questions prepared by the Agawam Democratic Committee, questions submitted by the Agawam High Model Congress, and questions from the audience.

The format also provides the candidates an opportunity to question each other, in addition to their opening and closing remarks. The debate will be moderated by Rudy Altobelli.

For more information, or to submit questions, please contact Attorney Gina Marie Letellier, Rudy Altobelli, Louis Russo, or Doug Bodman, or write to us at P.O. Box 395, Feeding Hills, MA 01030.

Russo Has Understanding Of Issues Facing Agawam's Senior Citizens

In a press release issued this week, Louis Russo, candidate for Agawam City Council, stated, "Because of my involvement with Agawam's seniors, I feel I have a thorough understanding of elderly needs and concerns. I am very proud of my long and continued service to Agawam's senior citizens.

"As a regular visitor to the Senior Center over the years, I have provided programs, trips, speakers, and seminars. I am very proud to be a board member of the 'Friends of the Senior Center.' I am equally happy to be an associate member of the 'Agawam Senior Olympic Team,' and I have enjoyed helping with their fundraising and providing transportation for the Team.

"Being a board member of the 'Friends of the Senior Center,' I know that caring for our seniors is the least we can do. Remember, the seniors of our community are the ones who worked hard to improve Agawam. It is not only what the younger generation is doing, it is also what the elder population did.

"For too many years, we have heard talk about what we should be doing for the elderly of Agawam. Unfortunately, most town officials only talk about helping seniors at election time. Too many of our elected officials seem to think that the elderly exist only during elections. They only visit the Senior Center when it is politically expedient.

"Our seniors should ask themselves when was the last time their elected officials stopped in at

the Center just to say hello. They should also ask what specifically have their elected officials done for them."

Russo continued, "Now, it is time to stop the usual campaign talk and really get serious about providing the additional housing, transportation, recreation, and other services that our elderly are sorely lacking. For example, because of the Americans With Disabilities Act, many of our seniors have trouble getting the transportation they need to make doctor's appointments or do their shopping.

"We should be finding ways of providing additional and convenient transportation to meet the needs of all our seniors. Also, for several years now, we have heard talk of expanding the Senior Center. However, why must we invest a million dollars in the present Center when we don't even own the building? The state owns the building.

"Wouldn't it be wiser to spend the million dollars building a bigger and better town-owned Center on town-owned land? We must also make certain that those charged with directing the Senior Center treat the seniors with respect and understanding.

"As a councilor, I will continue to be involved with our seniors and will continue to provide assistance and programs for their benefit. I will continue to show my support of Agawam's elderly by my continued actions and deeds and not through meaningless talk," concluded Russo.

JOHNSON - from Page 13...

the course has generated approximately \$380,000 in profits during its first four fiscal years of operation. This has allowed the town to permanently preserve a vital recreational facility which was slated for development into 132 house lots, at no cost to the taxpayers.

- Proposed and strongly advocated for zoning reform to increase minimum lot sizes for residential development.

- Proposed and advocated for zoning reform to create open space development (a concept that mandates the preservation of open space in each new residential development).

- Proposed state acquisition of the Hall Property (approximately 14 acres) adjacent to Perry Lane

Park which is the former site of the Old Mill Pond. The necessary appropriation for this acquisition was included in this year's town budget.

"Another positive attribute of open space is the wonderful active and passive recreation opportunities it provides to residents. I grew up in Agawam and I enjoyed spending much of my childhood in the woods of the old YMCA (now Perry Lane Park). I enjoy taking walks in the woods and viewing the magnificent scenery and wildlife. These experiences have formed the basis of my strong support of the preservation of open space.

"I am proud of my record of preserving open space and enhancing the quality of life in our community, and I pledge to continue my efforts to maintain Agawam's small-town character," concluded Johnson.

NO ONE covers all the hometown news like us, each week. If you wish to be a new subscriber, now is the time to call.

Chris Quatrone Has Worked Hard For The People Of Agawam

As Chairperson of the Ordinance Committee,

CHRIS worked with the Police Chief and **VOTED** to recommend Council approval of the ordinance banning illegal video gambling.

CHRIS worked with the Planning Board and **VOTED** to recommend Council approval of the moratorium on cell towers.

As a Member of the School Budget Committee,

CHRIS worked with the School Committee and **VOTED** to recommend Council approval for two school budgets with substantial increases in funding for computers, textbooks and curriculum revision.



Chris Quatrone Agawam City Council

A Voice of Reason & Responsibility

Paid Political Ad

Paid for by the Citizens for Christian M. Quatrone

Paid Political Ad

Campaign '97'' - continued...

Langone Addresses Rumor Rumblings Following Primary

Incumbent City Councilor Joseph F. Langone issued the following press release in the form of an "open letter" to the voters of Agawam.

Langone began, "I am taking this opportunity to respond to some rumblings I was made aware of on the day of the primary and in the days which followed. On June 16, 1997, I was arrested in West Springfield and charged with operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol.

"The final disposition of the case came in February of this year, when I entered a plea of 'guilty.' In addition to losing my right to operate a motor vehicle for two years, I was placed on probation and required to pay fines of almost \$1,000. Following my trial, I participated in a two-week in-patient residential program at the Thayer Institute in Worcester.

"I am presently participating in a 12-week after-care program at the Sloan Clinic in Springfield. To say that I made a mistake and exercised poor judgment on that fateful night last June is an understatement! I accept full responsibility for my actions and continue to this day to pay the price for them."

Langone continued, "I am bringing the details of my case to the attention of the voters as a way of responding to an underground campaign to discredit me as I work for reelection to the City Councilor. Many people close to me have informed me that the efforts of my detractors, together with the coverage given to my case by the television and newspaper, accounted for my poor showing in the primary.

"To all the voters, both my supporters and detractors, I would say this. While I realize the seriousness of my offense and deal with it every day, in no way, shape, or form has it affected my ability to execute the duties and responsibilities of my office. I rest easier at night believing sincerely that I have been a good councilor, and I again offer my record of votes as proof of that conviction."

Langone concluded, "When so many voters told me after the primary about the effect of my OUI charge on my results, I realized that I had underestimated the impact it would have on my bid for reelection. And so I make this appeal to the voters of Agawam on the eve of the general election, and I do so with the honesty and strength of character which, I feel, has been my hallmark as a councilor over these last two years.

"The fundamental question with regard to casting a vote for Joe is NOT whether he was guilty of breaking the law, for he admits that freely himself. Rather, the question is, 'Do the voters agree with my actions on the council; do they think, as my record shows, I can continue to do the job?' Not to vote for me on the basis of a smear campaign is unconscionable and not in the best interest of our town.

"Therefore, I respectfully ask the voters of Agawam to consider casting one of their 11 votes for me in the general election on November 4th. To my family, friends, and colleagues, I offer my deepest thanks for your continual support. To my detractors, I offer a pearl of wisdom spoken almost 2000 years ago, which is still as fresh as the day it was spoken: *"Let he among you who is without sin cast the first stone."*

Best local news...

Negrucci Says Citizens Seek Positive Direction From Agawam Council

In a campaign statement issued this week, John J. Negrucci, candidate for Agawam City Council, explains that the voters have not hesitated to voice their opinions to him.

Negrucci, a former pension fund administrator and past president of the Agawam Lions Club, said, "I have campaigned hard to try to earn the respect of the voters. In many ways, I have interacted with them to learn their viewpoints on issues. They have stated to me loud and clear that they want positive direction from the council, not bickering or political grandstanding."

Negrucci remarked, "Voters are sick and tired of the negative image which the present City Council provides.

"However," he continued, "in order to make the change on the City Council to move it in a positive direction, the citizens of Agawam must analyze

the candidates and exercise their right to vote. Only you, the voter, can really accomplish this goal."

He added, "I will continue to campaign hard and honestly. In future weeks, I will offer further positions for consideration by the voters. I pledge that as a councilor, I will act professionally and courteously.

"My wife, Cyndi, and I, our children, and our grandchildren all live in Agawam. We care about Agawam and its future. I know I can help provide positive direction for the Council. My qualifications and commitment to Agawam are solid.

Negrucci concluded, "I am pleased by my fifth-place finish in the primary and thank the voters for their support. I intend to campaign just as hard in the general election to continue to earn the respect of the voters."

Mayor Johnson Has Strong Record Of Support For Fire & Ambulance

In a campaign statement released this week, Mayor Christopher C. Johnson said, "During my tenure as mayor, I have supported our fire department and emergency medical services. After close to 20 years on the drawing board, the town completed the new Agawam Fire Headquarters on Main Street.

"In designing the new headquarters, we paid very close attention to the historic neighborhood on Main Street. I am very proud of the final product and believe that it is one of the nicest looking and most functional fire stations in the entire northeast. The new station replaced the Elm Street station, which is close to 100 years-old and was too small to house modern fire apparatus. The town has since turned over the Elm Street station to the Agawam Historical Association for utilization as the Agawam Fire and Historic Museum.

"In addition to the new fire headquarters, the town purchased two new fire pump trucks. The fire pump truck is the workhorse of the fire department and the core of its firefighting capabilities. The two new trucks were the first major fire apparatus purchased by the Town of Agawam since 1983 and they replaced existing vehicles which were 20 and 30 years-old, respectively. They have allowed our dedicated firefighting force to utilize modern technology in the battle to protect property and save lives.

"The next major acquisition for the fire department will be a new aerial platform truck which will

replace our ladder truck. The aerial platform truck will greatly enhance our firefighting and rescue capabilities, especially when dealing with larger industrial and commercial structures. The department also recently acquired a new fire rescue boat and an ice rescue sled which will provide us with dive and ice rescue capability."

Johnson continued, "The town's ambulance service has also undergone tremendous improvement over the past few years. Our community is fortunate to have a highly professional and dedicated group of emergency medical technicians who care very deeply about the public they serve. They have worked hard to improve the level of care they provide by introducing Advanced Life Support (ALS) services in the town.

"With ALS, the fire department can now perform more advanced life saving techniques and administer more life saving drugs at the scene to citizens in need. The department has also significantly increased the number of paramedics working on the ambulance. In addition to improving the level of services, the department recently purchased another new ambulance and has equipped the new fire pump trucks with emergency medical equipment.

"I am very proud of the outstanding services provided by the dedicated firefighters and emergency medical technicians in our fire department, and I pledge to continue my support of their vital mission," concluded Johnson.

Rheault Praises Vets' Agent For Doing Outstanding Job

Agawam Town Council candidate Donald M. Rheault has stated that Agawam is indeed fortunate to have a veterans' agent of Ruth Carr Bitzas's ability and dedication.

"What a proud moment it was last week when Agawam officially dedicated the new veterans' cemetery. Ruth's efforts should be commended. I know of no veterans' agent that deserves more respect than Ruth; whenever she is involved, it is a credit to how she handles everything to perfection and with an untiring commitment to all

veterans.

"We must not also forget the efforts of State Representative Dan Keenan and Senator Linda Melconian. It was very apparent from the remarks of Governor Cellucci that they played a major role in making this a reality.

"The generosity of Mr. Squazza's contribution of 57 acres of Agawam's prime land was an act of unbelievable unselfishness. This piece of proper-

SEE RHEAULT - Page 16...



Cecilia P. Calabrese
Attorney at Law



- Real Estate
- Business Law
- Bankruptcy
- Personal Injury
- Wills & Trusts

789-7654

Serving The Entire Greater Springfield Area And Connecticut

Dear Voters of Agawam:

I sincerely wish to thank those who came out to vote for me for Council. I would also like to thank all my volunteers who helped out at the polls.

Your continued support of me for Council on November 4th would be greatly appreciated. I ask for "1" of your eleven votes.

Sincerely,

Stanley J. Chmielewski
Agawam Chief of Police, Retired

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Stanley J. Chmielewski for Council
786-6859

Paid Political Ad

Campaign '97 - continued...

Rheault Maintains That Rec. Facilities Are Insufficient

Agawam Town Council candidate Donald M. Rheault has issued the following press release:

"I believe Agawam's recreational facilities are insufficient, and I cite a shortage of athletic fields and gymnasiums as clear examples. To make matters worse, at a time when more fields are needed, the school additions are eliminating field space.

"The town showed great resolve by investing many dollars and man-hours in the Agawam Country Club. Let's see that same resolve for the benefit of the thousands of children and young adults throughout Agawam. The need is there.

"I am asking the voters of Agawam for the opportunity to be a strong advocate for the recreational needs of our community. As a co-founder of the Agawam Athletic Association, I believe I have the skills and experience to turn talk into action."

Rheault continued, "I believe the town should do much more to support the various Athletic Associations and civic groups throughout Agawam. Agawam is blessed with many hard-working individuals who volunteer their time and energy for our youth. This in turn provides a tremendous savings for the town. I believe it is time for our town to keep pace with the growing recreational needs of our youth.

"All organizations have limitations and I believe the town can and should help these organizations overcome these limitations. Let's see that same resolve for the thousands of children in our town.

"In addition to more athletic fields, I believe it's time to explore the feasibility of a town recreation center. Money spent on recreation is a worthy investment. The purchase of Tuckahoe Turf Farm came with a promise for increased athletic and recreational facilities. It's time we hold people accountable for their promises," concluded Rheault.

check our classified...

Kasparian Announces He Will Run Sticker Campaign For Council

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

His name won't appear on the November 4th ballot, but Hampden County Commissioner Abe Kasparian is not out of the running.

After finishing in 24th place in Agawam's preliminary election for Town Council, Kasparian was eliminated from the ballot. However, he's not calling it quits just yet.

Last week, Kasparian announced he will run a sticker campaign, asking voters to either write in his name or affix a Kasparian sticker in the space provided on the voting machines.

Kasparian said his political career was forever compromised when Hampden County Commissioner Richard Thomas released details of his criminal record during the campaign for a seat on

the commission two years ago.

"I expected to finish in the low end," Kasparian said. "I knew I was carrying the baggage Richard Thomas has forced me to carry for the rest of my political life."

Undaunted, Kasparian said he will use the four weeks between the primary and the election to debate the issues and to "tell people about who Abe Kasparian is today and the kind of person I have become."

Kasparian said he expects to participate in any public forums for council candidates and he will be launching a campaign to educate the voters on the mechanics of voting for a write-in candidate.

RHEAULT - from Page 15...

ty stands out with breathtaking beauty and as a place of dignity for all veterans to be buried who served their country with the same unselfishness that Mr. Squazza has exemplified. This is probably the most generous contribution a person could give. Mr. Squazza is deserving to have his legacy remembered.

"I'm sure that all those who had the opportunity to witness this historic event left not only with a sense of gratitude to those I mentioned, but also with a feeling of pride to know Agawam stands tall with the remembrance of all our veterans who served with unselfish honor so that we are all able to live in freedom," concluded Rheault.

best
local
news

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Agawam Conservation Commission will meet on Thursday, October 23, 1997 at 7:00 PM in the Faolin Peirce Community Room, Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, Mass. The purpose of this meeting will be to hear the Request for Determination of Applicability for property located at 32 Calico Lane.

By Order of Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman
Agawam Conservation Commission
Published: October 16, 1997

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Agawam Home Site Of MHFA Loans To Fight Dreaded Lead Paint

The Massachusetts Housing Finance Agency (MHFA) and the Hampden Hampshire Housing Partnership (HAP) have announced that funds are available to homeowners, investor-owners, and non-profit organizations seeking to remove lead paint from their properties through the Commonwealth's Get the Lead Out program.

"Lead paint poisoning is a deadly threat to our children," said MHFA Executive Director Steven Pierce. "This is a great example of state officials working with local agencies to tackle the problem of lead paint poisoning. Hopefully, hundreds of families will take advantage of this program and eliminate lead paint poisoning in the future."

The Governor and the Legislature have targeted \$4.5 million in the 1998 state budget to combat this threat to Massachusetts children and blight on its housing. The Get the Lead Out program is administered statewide by MHFA.

According to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, lead paint poisoning is one of the greatest hazards facing children under the age of six, with long-term exposure often causing permanent learning disabilities and brain damage. Although lead paint was banned in 1978, over 4,600 Massachusetts children have been diagnosed with lead paint poisoning since 1990. It is estimated that one-million homes in Massachusetts still contain lead paint.

"The Get the Lead Out program is a wonderful example of our state government answering the needs of homeowners in the often overwhelming task of removing lead paint," said Agawam Mayor Christopher Johnson. "As a member of the MHFA Board of Directors, it is terrific to see this program at work in my home town protecting the future of our children who truly are our greatest asset."

State Representative Daniel Keenan (D-3rd Hampden) said, "The Get the Lead Out program is an effective and affordable option for property owners in preventing lead paint poisoning in children."

Get the Lead Out funding is available for one-, two-, three-, or four-family structures for up to 20 years, with a minimum of five years. To qualify for the program, total household income has to be \$46,000 or less for one- or two-person families, and \$52,000 for three or more people in a family.

M.J. Adams, HAP Director of Technical Services, said, "The Get the Lead Out program is a great program to assist property owners in making their homes lead safe for children. These funds give owners an affordable way to bring the property into compliance with the Massachusetts Lead Law."

Single-family homeowners can borrow up to \$20,000; two-family homeowners up to \$25,000; three-family homeowners up to \$30,000; and four-family homeowners up to \$35,000. Owner-occupants could be eligible to receive a zero-percent deferred payment loan that is due upon sale, transfer, or refinancing of the property.

Non-profit organizations may obtain zero-percent, fully amortizing loans on properties being rented to income-eligible households, while investor-owners may receive three-percent, fully amortizing loans on properties being rented to income-eligible households.

The announcement regarding these funds was made at the home of Agawam residents Gerald and Theresa Bassette. The Bassettes, who have no children, secured a loan through the Get the Lead Out program for \$25,694 at zero-percent interest in August to delead their two-family home after a friend's child became ill with lead paint poisoning.

Since the program began in 1982, 697 loans have been made totaling over \$12.6 million. Through HAP, MHFA has financed 32 lead paint removal loans representing \$510,574 in Hampden and Hampshire Counties.

Get the Lead Out loans are available through 50 rehabilitation agencies throughout the Commonwealth. For a "Get the Lead Out" brochure and a list of local rehabilitation agencies, homeowners should contact MHFA at (617) 854-1020 or HAP at (413) 785-1251.

Educational materials on lead poisoning prevention are also available by calling the Department of Public Health's Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program at 1-800-532-9571.

JACK DEVINE needs at least 48 hours notice to cover your event. Call Jack at 789-0053. Thanks.



IN SUPPORT OF THE "Get the Lead Out" program: Paul DeGray of Girard Fire Restoration, Inc.; Steven Pierce, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Housing Finance Agency; homeowners Theresa & Gerald Bassette and Isabelle Bernatchez; State Representative Daniel Keenan; Agawam Mayor Christopher Johnson; and M.J. Adams, Director of Technical Services for the Hampden Hampshire Housing Partnership. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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AT THE RECENT CONCERNED CITIZENS & BUSINESSES OF AGAWAM (CCBA) fundraiser at the Agawam American Legion, from left - David Peterson, Susan Fay, Manon McCarthy, John McCarthy, Louis Russo, Peter Longo, Mary Ghedi, and Charles Ghedi. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

CCBA Hosts Wine Tasting Event As Fundraiser

The Concerned Citizens and Businesses of Agawam (CCBA) recently hosted a wine tasting event as a way of raising funds to help in its quest to defeat Berkshire Power.

Dozens of wonderful wines (imported and

domestic) were donated by John & Manon McCarthy of Northgate Discount Liquors of Springfield. Music was donated by New England DJs/Karaoke Kid Productions featuring DJ Brian Fowler.

In addition, contributions to the fundraiser were

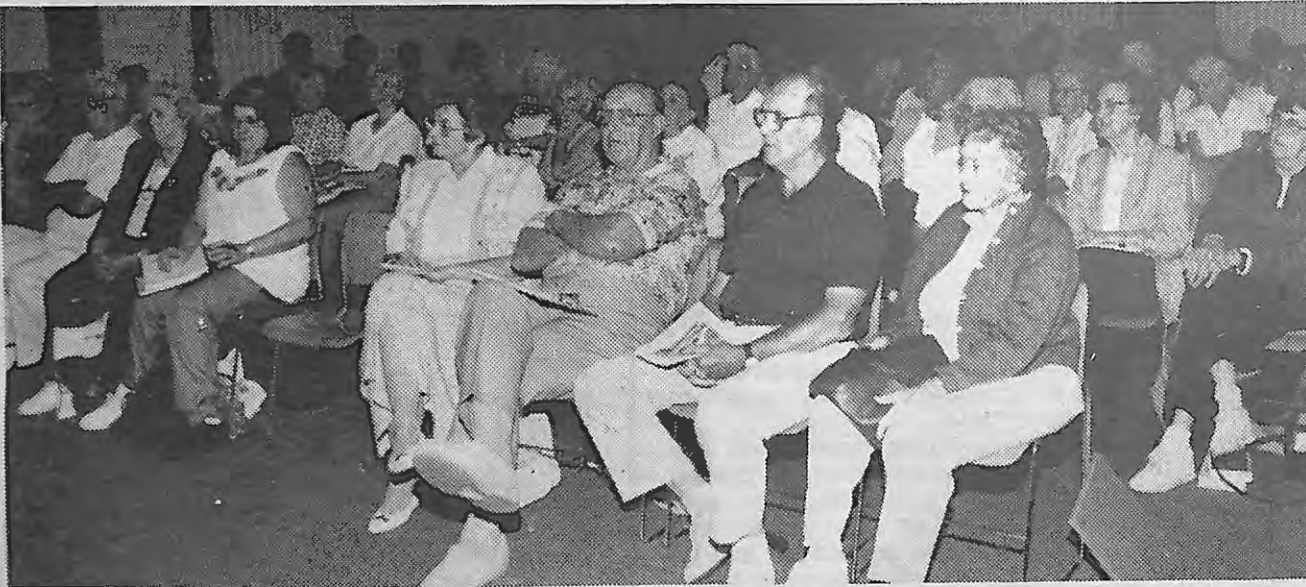
made by Del Negro's Markets, Maria's Pizza, and Charlie and Mary Ghedi, as well as other businesses and individuals.

Those wishing to contribute to the CCBA, may do so by mailing your donation to P.O. Box 825, Agawam, MA 01001.

Retired Town Employees Hear About Medical Benefits



FORMER TOWN EMPLOYEE JOHN CHRISCOLA (center) with State Rep. Daniel F. Keenan (left) and Christopher M. Powers, account executive of the Central Regional Office of BlueCross/BlueShield of Mass., are pictured at a recent meeting at the Agawam Library of retired town employees. Medical benefits and other issues were discussed at the meeting. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



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U.S. Rep. Neal Takes Conn. River Ride



U.S. REP. RICHARD NEAL recently took a Sunday boat ride down the Connecticut River to promote its viability as an area resource and is pictured above on the docks of the Pioneer Valley Yacht Club. From left - Terry Blount, Congressman Neal, Chris Collins, Eugene O'Neil (yacht club commodore), and Tom Miner. **IN PHOTO RIGHT**, Rep. Neal is pictured with Yacht Club Commodore Eugene O'Neil.

Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Fire Wise...

by Fire Chief David Pisano

A Fire-Safe & Worry-Free Winter

As the temperatures drop, the number of residential fires goes up. The Agawam Fire Department wants you to have a worry-free winter by taking the following precautions:

Before the home heating season begins, have a qualified serviceman inspect your furnace and change the filters. Make sure that all papers, trash, and flammable liquids are kept away from the furnace area.

If you have a fireplace or wood stove that you use for home heating, make sure it's cleaned and inspected by a qualified chimney sweep. Burn only dry, well-seasoned hard woods such as oak, hickory, and maple. Avoid wood that is green and moist.

When using your fireplace, make sure the opening is covered with a metal screen or glass doors, and never leave a fire unattended. A wood stove should have a minimum clearance of 36 inches between the stove and combustible walls and ceilings.

Flammable liquids should never be used to start or accelerate any fire. Place ashes in a metal container and store outside away from the house.

Portable space heaters (electric or kerosene) also need special attention. Make sure there is a minimum of 36 inches of clearance on all sides of these heaters. Small children should not be left unattended in a room with a portable heater.

Follow the manufacturer's suggestions for proper operation and maintenance. Keep kerosene stored in approved metal containers in a well-ventilated area outside the house, and never attempt to refuel a heater while it's operating or hot.

Frozen water pipes? Never try to thaw them with a torch or other open flame. Use hot water or a UL-labeled device for thawing.

Assist the fire department by keeping fire hydrants near your home clear of snow, so in the event of a fire, the hydrant can be easily located.

Make sure there are operating smoke detectors on each level of your home. Your family should have and practice a home fire escape plan.

Contact the Agawam Fire Department at 786-2662 if you have any questions or require additional information.



U.S. REP. RICHARD NEAL (back of boat, right) heads into the Pioneer Valley Yacht Club's dock area on his recent tour of the Connecticut River. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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Best local news...

Drive-Thru Gets ZBA OK For Walgreen's

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

The plan to build a Walgreen's Pharmacy on the site now occupied by Betty's Old Towne House cleared another hurdle at last week's meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA), but the fate of the 1832 historic building is still unsettled.

Representing Walgreen's was Agawam Attorney Anthony C. Bonavita. Bonavita said his client is working with the flower shop owner next door to come up with a plan to move the building onto his property.

"Walgreen's has agreed to put up \$15,000 to help with relocating the building, and they've agreed to help with the expensive process of (developing) a site plan," Bonavita said.

In a unanimous vote, ZBA Chairman Ron Hebert and members Ray Gendron and Doreen Prouty okayed a special permit to allow the pharmacy to operate a drive-thru window for pre-ordered, prescription medications only.

It was the first special permit for a drive-thru service window to be requested and granted since Town Council amended the zoning code to require special permits for all drive-thru windows in September. Before the zoning code was amended, special permits were required only for drive-thru restaurants.

Bonavita said the drive-thru window would be located on the Walnut Street side of the building and would be used solely for the pickup of pre-ordered, pharmaceutical prescriptions. The site plan shows room for four cars stacking up at the window, but the company expects minimal use of the window.

Bonavita said the drive-thru was intended for use in situations like a mother with sick kids being able to pick up a prescription without getting out of the car.

Looking over the site plan approved by the Planning Board and a traffic study finding the store would not have an adverse impact on the intersection, Hebert said the proposed store would be an appropriate use of the site and would not adversely affect the health, property value, or safety of the neighbors.

Gendron agreed the proposal met the criteria as an appropriate use of the site. "Their voluntary agreement to limit the drive-thru to pharmaceuticals is an adequate control to meet the safety standard," Gendron said.

Although the company would like to begin construction as soon as possible, realistically, they are probably looking at a March start, Bonavita said.

Agawam DPW Discusses Leaf Collection & Disposal

The Department of Public Works wishes to advise Agawam residents that "Eco-Bag" biodegradable plastic bags may be used for leaf disposal this year as an alternate to the Kraft paper sacks. This approval is for a one-year period only while the bags are evaluated in curbside collections and for breakdown in the composting process.

Also, as an alternative to the curbside collection of leaves in paper sacks or "eco-bags," leaves may be brought to a drop-off location at the Bondi's Island landfill located on Route 5 in Agawam commencing Saturday, October 18th, and continuing every day except Sundays through December 13th or until snow cover. Hours of operation are 8:00 a.m. through 4:00 p.m.

Grass clippings and pine needles may be included with the leaves. However, no brush, limbs, trimmings, or prunings will be collected or accepted with the leaves.

If leaves are brought to the drop-off location in plastic bags or any other containers other than approved Kraft paper bags or "Eco-Bags," they must be removed from the container by the resident and the containers or bags removed from the site. Only Agawam residents bringing leaves from their one-, two-, three-, or four-family homes served by the bi-weekly rubbish collection are eligible to bring leaves to the drop-off site. Leaves will not be accepted from landscapers or firms engaged in lawn care as a business.

Residents are reminded that the curbside collection of leaves in 30-gallon, two-ply, Kraft paper sacks or "Eco-Bags" will occur on the dates marked by an "L" on their collection schedule. In general, leaves will be collected from routes 1-4 on the regular collection day on the weeks of October 27th and November 13th. Routes 5-8 collections will occur on the weeks of November 3rd and November 17th.

Residents should be aware that State Regulations do not allow us to collect any leaves with the regular rubbish. Those wishing to dispose of leaves must take advantage of the special collection or drop-off.

COMPOST BINS AND WOOD CHIPS FOR YOUR YARD CARE NEEDS

Imagine cleaning up your yard and not having to bag the leaves and yard trimmings or transport them to the compost area! Think how much easier it would be to have a year-round supply of rich, black compost available in your own backyard than to import it by the bag or truckload.

To make the composting process easier and more affordable than ever, the Agawam Department of Public Works is offering home composting bins for sale at over 50 percent off the retail price. This special offer is made possible through a grant from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection.

To order your discounted compost bin, stop by the DPW office in Town Hall at 36 Main Street. Payment must be made at the time the order is placed. As a *special incentive*, purchasers will receive a certificate good for up to 200 gallons of wood chips for each bin ordered. The chips are suitable for landscaping or mulching purposes or as a carbon source for composting.

Bins will be distributed at appointed times at the Agawam Municipal Golf Course. The bin distribution will include a workshop on composting and lawn care conducted by Geoffrey Houghton, the course superintendent, and his staff. The chips will be available at an arranged time at Shea Field. Act now, supplies are limited!

Two sizes of compost bins are available through the program — the Brave New Composter (up to 24 cubic feet capacity) at a price of \$21, and the Brave Little Composter (up to 11 cubic feet of capacity) at a price of \$15. Both units are adjustable and handle the equivalent of about 12 bags of leaves or five bags of leaves, respectively.

They have a cone-shaped floor and cover which provide air and moisture to the composting material, requiring a minimum of maintenance while producing compost in about 3 months. The bins are made in Massachusetts from 100 percent post-consumer recycled plastic. Samples of the bins can be seen at the Agawam Municipal Golf Course at 128 Southwick Street or the Agawam Town Hall at 36 Main Street.

The compost bins help hold in heat and moisture, keep animals out, and look more attractive than open compost heaps. Organic material will start to turn to compost in the bins in three to six months. Compost, known as "black gold" to gardeners, replenishes nutrients in the soil, helps retain moisture, makes the soil easy to work, and helps plants resist disease. At the same time, turning your leaves, kitchen scraps, and soiled paper to compost can reduce your garbage by as much as 50 percent and help control municipal solid waste collection and processing costs.

Leaves are an important ingredient of a compost pile. Without them, a compost pile may become too wet and create odors. If you have leaves left over from the fall, use them to start your compost heap and save the rest to add during the summer.

Compostable food scraps and grass clippings should be buried under about six inches of leaves, where they will decompose odorlessly. If leaves are in short supply, add plenty of paper towels, napkins, and torn-up paper bags to provide the necessary carbon, and always bury your food scraps under this material.

Composting and lawn care brochures are available at the Public Works office in Town Hall, and an in-depth video entitled "Home Composting: Turning Your Spoils To Soil" is available at the library.

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Agawam Obituaries

Rita LaFleur

Rita (Loiselle) LaFleur, 82, of 51 Maple Street, Agawam, died at home.

She worked at Bradlees Department Store for 14 years. She retired in 1976.

Born in Holyoke, she lived in West Springfield for 25 years before moving to Agawam 14 years ago.

She was a communicant of St. Thomas' Church and a former member of the Senior Danehey Club.

Her husband, Norman G. LaFleur, died earlier this year.

She leaves one son, Norman G. Jr. of West Springfield; three daughters, Lorraine Craven of West Springfield, Janet Nelson of Havelock, North Carolina, and Jean Aloisi of Agawam; one sister, Jeanette Houle of Easthampton; and eight grandchildren.

The funeral was held from the Toomey-O'Brien Funeral Home and in the church, with burial in St. Thomas' Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association, 111 Elm Street, Suite 9A, West Springfield, MA 01089.

Dorothy M. Andrews

Dorothy M. (Jesseman) Andrews, 85, of Main Street, Agawam, died in a local nursing home.

She was a 15-year antiques dealer and had worked as a hostess and bartender for the Andover Inn in Andover.

Born and educated in Lowell, she lived in Agawam for 15 years.

She was predeceased by her husband, Paul Andrews, and a son, Raymond O'Donnell.

She leaves a son, Gerard W. Tobin, and a niece, Barbara Tobin, both of Agawam.

A graveside service was held in Hillcrest Park Cemetery, Springfield, and a memorial service was conducted at Agawam Congregational Church.

Curran-Jones Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001.

Ronald D. Randolph

Ronald D. Randolph, 58, of North Street Extension, Agawam, died at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

He was a 10-year postal worker for the postal services in Queens, New York, retiring in 1975.

He was born and educated in Brooklyn, New York, and he received his degree in Social Work and History from Westfield State College.

He was an Army veteran and was instrumental in forming the Agawam Parent Advisory Council.

He leaves his wife, Gillian (Ward) Randolph, and two sons, Richard J. and Michael D., all of Feeding Hills; a sister, JoAnne Ingalls of Westfield; and several nephews and nieces.

All services were held at the convenience of the family, and there were no calling hours. The Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home was in

charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to Noble Hospital, Oncology Department, P.O. Box 1634, Westfield, MA 01086.

Clinton R. Warren

Clinton R. Warren, 82, a 47-year resident of Agawam, died at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

He was a manager of Stop & Shop in Springfield and previously in Boston and Hartford. He retired in 1979.

Born in New Brunswick, Canada, he was raised and educated in Somerville before moving to Agawam.

He belonged to the Shriners, Masonic Lodge of Hampden, Italian Sporting Club, and the German Club "Turnverein."

He also was active in the Agawam Congregational Church and received an Outstanding Service Award. He was a deacon and served on many church committees. He was a part of the church's Loaves and Fishes program.

He leaves his wife of 61 years, Dorothy (Davis); three daughters, Judith Louise Wood of Sunderland, Janice Lorraine Ludemann of Brimfield, and Jerilyn Linda Boduch of Marietta, Georgia; a brother, Herbert C. of Troutsdale, Oregon; eight grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

A memorial service was held at the church, and the burial service was private. Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home of Agawam was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Shriners Hospital, 516 Carew Street, Springfield, MA 01104, or to the Agawam Congregational Memorial Fund, 745 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001.

Jacob Karolinski

Jacob Karolinski, 86, of 136 West Alvord Street, Springfield, died in Baystate Medical Center.

He was the owner of the former Feeding Hills Poultry Farm in Agawam, retiring in 1984. Previously, he worked for a furniture upholstery company in Springfield and was a leather tanner in Poland.

Born in Poland, he served in the Polish and Russian armies during World War II. He moved to the United States in 1949.

He was a member of Kesser Israel Synagogue and belonged to the Hatikva Club, the Lubivatcher Yeshiva Academy, and the Springfield Jewish Community Center, where he was a member of the Silver Foxes and Belles.

He leaves his wife, Bernice (Rosentzweig) Karolinski; two sons, Carl of Longmeadow and Aaron of Pearland, Texas; a daughter, Naomi Karolinski-Jakas of Rochester, New York; and six grandchildren.

The funeral was held at the Harold R. Ascher & Son Memorial Chapel, with burial in B'Nai Jacob Cemetery, West Springfield.

A memorial observance was held at the home of Carl Karolinski, 57 Merriweather Drive, Longmeadow, with an evening and morning service.

Memorial contributions may be made to the

Holocaust Memorial Fund, care of the Springfield Jewish Federation, 1160 Dickinson Street, Springfield, MA 01108, or to the Kesser Israel Synagogue, 19 Oakland Street, Springfield, MA 01108.

Stanley W. Kusmierz

Stanley W. Kusmierz, 94, formerly of 130 Byers Street, Springfield, died in an Agawam nursing home.

Born in Chicopee, he lived in Springfield for many years.

He worked as a chef at the former Darcy's Restaurant in Chicopee and at the Springfield Municipal Hospital, from where he retired.

After retirement, he worked part-time as a security guard at the former Wesson Memorial Hospital in Springfield.

He was a communicant of the Basilica of St. Stanislaus Bishop and Martyr.

His wife, Dorothy (Roux) Kusmierz, died in 1989.

He leaves one sister, Emily Grigonis of Chicopee, and several nieces and nephews.

A funeral Mass was held at the church, and Tylunas Funeral Home in Chicopee was in charge of the arrangements. Burial was held in the parish cemetery.

Richard Cohen

Richard Cohen, 71, of 20 C Mansion Woods Drive, Agawam, died in Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

Born in Springfield, he lived there and in Longmeadow before moving to Agawam in 1985.

He was a graduate of the former Technical High School. He attended American International College in Springfield and was a 1951 graduate of the University of Miami.

He was an Army veteran during World War II, served in the European Theater and received a Purple Heart.

He was one of the original tenants in Baystate West and owned Music City, The Shirt House, and the Popcorn Boutique, all in Springfield.

He leaves his wife, Irma (Rubin) Cohen of Agawam; a son, Mark of Hollywood, California; a daughter, Lori Cohen of Springfield; and two sisters, Phyllis Siskind of Toms River, New Jersey, and Henrietta Wilansky of Silver Spring, Maryland.

The funeral was held at the Harold R. Ascher and Son Memorial Chapel, with burial in the Beth Israel Cemetery. A memorial observance was held at 20 C Mansion Woods Drive with two evening services.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association, 1111 Elm Street, Suite 9A, West Springfield, MA 01089, or the American Diabetes Association, Massachusetts Affiliate Inc., 813 Williams Street, P.O. Box 61210, Longmeadow, MA 01116-1210.

**SEE OBITUARIES -
continued on Page 22...**

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Jeffrey J. Whorton, Director of Human Resources



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OBITUARIES - from Page 21...

William J. O'Brien

William J. O'Brien, 62, of 248 Sibley Avenue, West Springfield, died in Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

He was a 37-year systems specialist for Monsanto Co., now known as Solutia, retiring in 1992.

Born in Springfield, he was a longtime resident of West Springfield, a graduate of West Springfield High School, and he also attended Springfield Technical Community College.

He was an Army veteran, having served during peace time, and a communicant of St. Thomas Church.

He belonged to the Monsanto Local Union 288, 25-Year Club, and he was a former member of the West Springfield-Agawam Elks Club.

He leaves his wife, the former Elizabeth L. (Bates) O'Brien; a son, William J. of West Springfield; a brother, Paul D. of Agawam; and two sisters, Mary P. Kennedy and Barbara A. Donovan, both of West Springfield.

The funeral was held at the Toomey-O'Brien Funeral Home, with services in the church and burial in St. Thomas Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the church Renovation Fund, 47 Pine Street, West Springfield, MA 01089.

Joyce F. Lee

Joyce F. (Rollins) Lee, 66, of Field Road, Enfield, CT, died in a Stafford nursing home.

She worked 10 years at the Buxton Co. plant in Agawam, and 10 years at Lego Systems, Inc., and retired last year.

Born in Orient, Maine, she lived for many years in Enfield.

She leaves her husband, Wendell C. Lee; a son, Clarence of Enfield; three brothers, Emile N. of East Hartford, Dane R. of Germany, and Mace G. of Danforth, Maine; five sisters, Pearl E. Hannington of Lawton, Oklahoma, Marian M. LaBonte of Cape Coral, Florida, Jean M. Kitchen of Costigan, Maine, Sandra R. Hannington of Tolland, and Dawn R. Kitchen of Bangor, Maine; many grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Another son, Kenneth A., died in 1991.

The funeral and burial were private and at the convenience of the family. Brown Memorial Funeral Chapels was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, 45 Wintonbury Avenue, Bloomfield, CT 06002.

Alyce D. Stebbins

Alyce D. (St. Peter) Stebbins, 66, of East Longmeadow, president and chief executive officer of Central Communications of Springfield, died in Mercy Hospital in Springfield.

She retired in 1995.

Born in Springfield, she lived many years in Agawam, and attended schools there.

She moved to East Longmeadow 14 years ago and was a communicant of St. Mary's Church, Longmeadow.

She was also a member of the Zonta Club, and was a certified ombudsman.

Her husband, Wilfred Stebbins, Jr., died in 1984.

She leaves three sons, Wayne A. of Glens Falls, New York, Dennis M. of Vancouver, Washington, and Wilfred III of Springfield; a daughter, Mary Ann Stebbins of East Longmeadow; two brothers, Robert of Florida and Albert of Chicopee; four sisters, Dorothy Harlambakis of East Longmeadow, Lucille Duer of New York City, and Jeanette Spagnolo and Carole King of Springfield; and six grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Forastiere-Smith Funeral Home and in the church, with burial in St. Thomas Cemetery, West Springfield.

Frank M. DelNegro

Frank M. DelNegro, 82, of West Springfield, died in a local nursing home.

He was a 30-year town plumbing inspector for West Springfield, and he also worked seven years as an inspector for Agawam.

He was a lifelong resident of West Springfield, a graduate of the Franklin Union Plumbers School in Boston, and an Army Air Force veteran of World War II.

He was a communicant of St. Ann's Church.

He belonged to the Deadline Gang, and was a former member of the Dante Club.

He leaves his wife, Alice (Michon) DelNegro; a son, Frank M. Jr. of Granby; a daughter, Rosemary Bunnell of West Springfield; a brother, William DelNegro of Agawam; a sister, Carmella Slosek of Feeding Hills; and five grandchildren.

The funeral was held at the West Springfield Curran-Jones Funeral Home, followed by a Mass in the church and burial in St. Ann's Church.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Ann's Society Scholarship Fund or to St. Ann's Church, 576 Memorial Avenue, West Springfield, MA 01089.

Noted Historian Opens Agawam Historical Association's Season

The Agawam Historical Association will begin its 1997-98 season on Tuesday, October 28th, at the Captain Charles Leonard House. Featured speaker is noted local historian Frances Gagnon.

As is appropriate just prior to Halloween, the title of Ms. Gagnon's presentation is "Bewitched and Bewildered." She will provide some fascinating and unusual insights into the public's attitude and the laws relating to witches in early Massachusetts history.

Ms. Gagnon is a historian, popular writer and journalist, and is Chairperson of the Springfield Historic Commission.

Students and the general public are invited to attend. A business meeting is planned at 6:30 p.m., with the program beginning at 7:30 p.m.

For further information, call 789-1608 or 568-9147, ext. 224.

State Rep. Keenan Slates Pasta Dinner For October 29th

Please join State Representative Dan Keenan for an evening of great food at his annual Pasta Dinner on Wednesday, October 29th, at the Polish American Club on Southwick Street in Feeding Hills from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Ticket prices are \$5 for general admission, and \$3 for senior citizens and children under 12. Tickets will be available for purchase at the door.

Dan is looking forward to the dinner and encourages you to bring your appetite to this growing community tradition.

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Agawam Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Thursday, October 23, 1997 at 7:15 PM in the Faolin Peirce Community Room, Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA. The purpose of this hearing is to hear the petition of the Town of Agawam for work to be performed on Barry Street, subject to the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act.

By Order of Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman
Agawam Conservation Commission
Published: October 16, 1997

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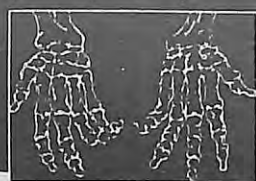
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Families

Fun Activities At Heritage Hall Nursing Home



HERITAGE HALL NURSING HOME recently hosted a variety of fun activities for its residents. From left - playing horseshoes were residents Herman Mutti with the help of Kathy Newman, activity assistant director; IN MIDDLE PHOTO, volunteer Wayne Ball entertains residents in the South Building on the keyboard; IN PHOTO RIGHT, John Root entertains resident Mary Santinello in the West Building with the flute. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Jr. Women's Club Plans Next Meeting For October 21st

The next meeting of the Agawam Junior Women's Club will take place on Tuesday, October 21st, at the Captain Charles Leonard House, Main Street, Agawam, at 7:30 p.m.

The topic for the meeting's program will be "pumpkin painting."

Agawam/Feeding Hills AARP Chapter Slates Monthly Meeting On Oct. 27th

The Agawam/Feeding Hills Chapter of AARP will hold its monthly meeting on October 27th at the Agawam Senior Center at 1:00 p.m.

There will be a short business meeting conducted by vice president Jessie Fuller, in the absence of the club president.

The program for this meeting will be a presentation by Jackie Cavanaugh of Bankers Life on Medicare reform and long-term care.

The Agawam/Feeding Hills AARP chapter is

sponsoring a booth at the Health Fair at the Senior Center, explaining the "Are You O.K.?" programs for seniors. Applications will be available for this "Are Your O.K.?" program at the Health Fair.

Members are reminded to bring in non-perishable food items for a basket for the needy.

All AARP members are urged to attend and bring a guest. Door prizes will be donated by Bankers Life.

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Feeding Hills Man Obtains Patent For Collapsible Ladder

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

A penchant for putting around the house producing creative improvements to everything from measuring cups to curtain tie-backs has turned into a patent on the world's first self-supporting, collapsible ladder for a Feeding Hills man.

For inventor Gus Mouneimneh and his wife, Kathy, waiting out the nearly three-year process of getting a patent on the ladder has been both exciting and tense.

As Mouneimneh explained it, the process involves hiring a patent attorney to sift through patent records in Washington, DC to make sure your idea has not already been patented. And even if the attorney doesn't find anything similar, you're still not home free until the patent is actually granted. Another inventor may have a similar idea already in the pipeline, but you won't know because a patent application is not part of the public record until the patent is granted.

The suspense ended about a month ago for the couple when the idea for the telescoping ladder received patent protection.

Mrs. Mouneimneh said she encouraged her husband to look into obtaining a patent on his idea after many of the ideas he'd been talking about for years began appearing in catalogues or in television ads.

"He has a very creative mind and a different way of thinking about things," Mrs. Mouneimneh said. "For years he'd say what about this idea or that idea but he didn't follow through. Then we'd see it in a catalogue. So, when he had the idea for the ladder, I told him, 'Just do it!'"

Listening to the explanation of the genesis of the ladder idea, it became clear what Mrs. Mouneimneh had meant about her husband's creative way of looking at the world.

Inspired By Son's Trombone-Playing

Mouneimneh said the idea came to him while watching his son, Adam, practicing on his trombone. "I knew I wanted a ladder that was easier to carry around. Watching Adam play the trombone, the rungs on the slide reminded me of a ladder and the slide made me think about the telescoping aspect," Mouneimneh said.

From the beginning, the idea grew into the aluminum alloy prototype that doesn't have to be kept a secret any longer.

The free-standing, eight-foot ladder lends itself to any household job that requires a step ladder with the added advantage of collapsing to about the size of a folded laundry rack for easy storage. The ladder would be a particular boon to apartment dwellers or anyone with limited storage space.

With a prototype already built, Mouneimneh is



FEEDING HILLS RESIDENT GUS MOUNEIMNEH has a U.S. patent for his collapsible ladder, which he says is the world's first of this type. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

looking for financial backing and a manufacturer to find a market for the collapsible ladder.

"I'm looking for someone who is interested in a new product," Mouneimneh said. "This is not your everyday ladder."

Between working on new projects and ideas around the house and helping his kids develop their ideas for school assignment, Mouneimneh says he keeps himself busy in his spare time.

Some of the projects he's most enjoyed working on were the ideas his kids came up with. Like (daughter) Leila's fifth grade invention for a telescoping wet/dry measuring cup. And (son) Zac's first prize-winning design for a car at the Junior Solar Sprints statewide competition at WPI five years ago.

Now 19, Zac is a freshman majoring in computer engineering at WPI. Leila, 16, and Adam, 14, attend Agawam High School where Mrs. Mouneimneh teaches English.

Formerly an environmental chemist, Mouneimneh quit his job to go into business for himself. He is the owner and manager of a liquor store in Springfield.

And, yes, he is working on another idea for the patent office's consideration.

"He's always had an innovative, creative outlook on life," Mrs. Mouneimneh said. "He always brings in a third angle in looking at things and he's always made life interesting around here."

Halloween Party At Legion

American Legion Post 185 will sponsor an Adult Halloween Party on Friday, October 31st.

Costumes are suggested but not required. Prizes for costumed participants will be awarded.

Admission is \$5, which includes buffet. The fun starts at 7:00 p.m., with music provided by DJ Charlie Parker. Dress up and join the fun.

Tickets may be purchased at the door or in advance at Post 185, Springfield Street, Agawam. All proceeds will be used to benefit Post 185.

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HallowScream 1997 At Riverside Offers Big Variety Of Family Fun

Riverside Park undergoes a hauntingly dramatic transformation this time every year in preparation for HallowScream, the Park's popular Halloween extravaganza. This year's festivities are guaranteed to be bigger and better than ever with over 20 specially designed holiday activities for the entire family.

The Park's acclaimed, newly renovated \$4 million Picnic Grove offers an ideal setting for new HallowScream events.

"The Picnic Grove gives us a new dimension this year to add to our exciting HallowScream package. The atmosphere down in the Grove is unique. It's very quiet and the Connecticut River provides natural theming for our Haunted Hayrides," guarantees Ron Severt, Riverside's Director of Marketing. "Many new surprises await guests this year," he added.

HallowScream is one of New England's largest, featuring a variety of creatively themed productions and special fun-filled activities that offer various degrees of fright ranging from delightfully tame to take-your-breath-away terrifying.

"We go to great lengths to diversify our activities and attractions for HallowScream to ensure that every member of the family has something to enjoy. And we place the utmost importance on creating a highly desirable safe place where adults and kids can go this time of the year," said Bill Muirhead, General Manager of Riverside.

New for '97 will be three new children's areas, including "Hay Maze," where kids may explore their way to the finish and sign the wall of a MAZE'ing kids; decorate their own mask or goodies' bag at the "Masquerade" Pavilion; listen to live readings at the "Goosebumps Gallery"; and enjoy a family Hayride along the Connecticut River.

Riverside's Pumpkin Patch and Trick or Treat Village both return this year, bigger and better than ever with tons of sweets. All children's activities are designed for little ghouls and goblins under 48 inches high, and offer a safe place where adults can enjoy watching their kids enjoy the Halloween season.

All children's activities are held from 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m. throughout HallowScream on

Saturdays and Sundays...

For those wanting to be scared out of their wits, Riverside Park presents a daring challenge with Haunted Hayrides. Guests will travel through a trail of terror with lots of scares, suspension, and music to thrill our courageous guests.

A word of warning, however — remain attentive as the ride roars through the fog-shrouded cemetery where ghouls and zombies are known to suddenly lurch from their graves.

"It's not for the faint-of-heart, by any means. This first-class horror attraction take ultra-thrillseekers on an unforgettable tour of the devastatingly haunted grounds along the Connecticut River," stated Severt. "It is one hair-raising experience," he added.

HallowScream '97 features several live, action-packed, Halloween-themed family shows. Headlining the dazzling show lineup is the Park's heart-stopping haunted illusion show called "Zambora the Gorilla Woman," where a beautiful Princess mysteriously transforms into a Gorilla Woman right before your eyes.

Finishing off the family show lineup for HallowScream is the Monster Mash Extravaganza, where kids will be captivated by a monster musical, a magic show of illusions and mystical magic, a Puppet Works SPOOKtacular, and an interactive Make-a-Scary Movie where children from the audience can "produce" their own movie.

In addition to the great shows, each afternoon during HallowScream a children's costume contest will be conducted. Contestants can register when they enter the Park. The contest begins at 6:00 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays and will be held in the Starlight Garden Stage. Judges award prizes for the "Best" and "Most Unique" costumes for kids under 48 inches high.

"This has become a big event," Severt said. "Hundreds of contestants compete each year."

Over 150 rides, shows, and attractions (not including the water rides) will be open during HallowScream, which began on Friday, October 10th. Hours of operation are generally Friday from 4:00 to 11:00 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

For exact days and hours for HallowScream, call (888) HAUNTLINE.

Ag. Senior Center's Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, October 20th: Beef barley soup, chicken cutlet on a roll with lettuce and tomato, orange.

Tuesday, October 21st: Apple Orchard pork chops, mashed potato, acorn squash, breadsticks, lemon pudding.

Wednesday, October 22nd: Roast turkey, stuffing with gravy, butternut squash, pumpkin bread, cookies.

Thursday, October 23th: Veggie soup, ham/cheese on rye bread, potato salad, pears.

Friday, October 24th: Baked fish, wild rice, cole slaw, whole wheat bread, peaches.

Fleet Reserve Assoc. To Meet Oct. 21st At Westover AFB

Meetings of the Fleet Reserve Association, Pioneer Valley Branch 246/Unit Ladies Auxiliary 246, are held the third Tuesday of each month at the Westover Club, Westover Air Reserve Base, Chicopee. Our next meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 21st.

Membership in the Fleet Reserve Association is open to men and women of the U.S. Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard (active duty, reserve, and retired).

The regional president of the New England F.R.A. will attend the October meeting. For more information about the Fleet Reserve Association, Branch 246 and LAFRA Unit 246, come to our meetings.

Members at large are welcome, or you can call John Gannon, Branch 246 President, or Therese Gannon, Unit Secretary, at (413) 568-8174.

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Some WWII History From Committee Bringing Songs Of Era To Agawam

There are only four weeks remaining until the Intergenerational World War II Week at Agawam High School with classroom visits from November 17th-21st, the "Songs Of War Years" concert on Wednesday, November 19th, and the "Victory Dance" on Friday, November 21st.

War Years - 1940

World War II continued. The year saw German troops invade Denmark and Norway (there was no resistance in the former country; the latter was paralyzed by treachery), the violation of the neutrality of Belgium, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands, with the subsequent surrender of the Dutch and Belgian armies after enormous casualties.

The British were driven from the continent, and some 300,000 British and French soldiers were taken from the beaches of Dunkirk in the most heroic rescue of the war. Most of the armament was lost in the retreat, and the British faced the future nearly helpless to ward off invasion.

The Germans almost reached Paris, Italy declared war on Great Britain and France, and the latter sued (June 17th) for an armistice. Italy extended the war to the Balkans by attacking Greece, Germany came to Italy's assistance, overran Greece and Yugoslavia, and brought Hungary, Bulgaria, and Rumania under German control.

Hitler's conquests, unequalled since the days of Napoleon, shocked America out of its isolationist stand. Congress enacted (August 27th) a law requiring alien residents to register and passed the Selective Service and Training Act

(September 16th), inaugurating the first peacetime military draft in United States history.

October 16th was the appointed day for the registration of all male citizens up to the age of 35 inclusive; 16,313,240 received registration cards. Secretary of War Henry Lewis Stimson set the draft in motion by drawing, blindfolded, the card of the first selectee from a glass bowl in the War Department Auditorium.

To impress further upon the public the necessity of adequate national defense, the Post Office Department issued three special postage stamps to replace temporarily the regular issues. The new adhesives pictured the Statue of Liberty (one cent), an anti-aircraft gun (two cents), and an uplifted torch (three cents), each bearing the words "For Defense."

In exchange for two old destroyers, the United States obtained from Great Britain naval and air bases in American waters.

I Am An American Day (third Sunday in May) was proclaimed by Act of Congress.

During the year, the Post Office issued, among other commemorative stamps, a special series of 35 stamps in groups of five each, with portraits celebrating famous Americans (artists, authors, educators, inventors, musical composers, poets, and scientists).

The Pan American Airways "Yankee Clipper" flew from New York to Lisbon, Portugal, in a record time of 18 hours, 35 minutes, and made the return trip in 25 hours, one minute.

The national population was 131,669,275.



TRACEY LANDON & KEVIN CHRISANTHOPOULOS

Tracey Lee Landon To Be Bride Of Mr. Chrisanthopoulos

Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Landon of 250 Dewey Street, West Springfield, are proud to announce the engagement of their daughter, Tracey Lee, to Kevin Chrisanthopoulos, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Chrisanthopoulos of 51 Debra Lane, Agawam.

The bride-to-be is a 1991 graduate of West Springfield High School. She attended Westfield State College and is a 1995 graduate of STCC. She is currently employed as a Legal Assistant for the Law Firm of Alan Goodman.

The future groom is a 1992 graduate of Agawam High School. He is a 1996 graduate of Western New England College and is currently pursuing his law degree at Roger Williams University School of Law.

A July 1998 wedding has been planned at Sacred Heart Church in Springfield.

Jr. Women's Club Seeking Donations For Annual Holiday Basket Program

Once again, the Agawam Junior Women's Club is collecting food and toys for Thanksgiving and Christmas Holiday Baskets. This year, we need to fill over 50 baskets which will be delivered to Feeding Hills and Agawam residents in need, including some of our elderly.

We are looking to fill each basket with one Thanksgiving dinner and enough food to feed a family of four for a week. We need the following items:

Canned vegetables; cereal; onions; pumpkin pie filling; food in jars; cake mixes; apples; stuffing mix; pasta; potatoes; and cranberry sauce.

These items may be left at the following drop-off places:

Fitness First; Ayre Real Estate; Feeding Hills Public Market; Agawam Senior Center; Granger School Office; Westfield Savings Bank; Agawam Public Market; The Deli on Main Street; Agawam Town Hall; and the Agawam Public Library.

If you wish to make a perishable donation of a 10-pound turkey or a three-pound ham, please call Joyce at 786-3327 or Dee at 786-9085 after 5:00 p.m.

For the Christmas baskets, we often include toys for the children. If you wish to donate a toy, you may leave it in the same drop-off box at one of the places listed above for food.

Also, every year our Club looks for caring individuals to sponsor a child (or children) of one of these needy families. Sponsors are asked to purchase one item of clothing for that child (or children) which is wrapped and added to the family's holiday basket. To sponsor a child, call Eileen at 789-2818 or Stephanie at 786-4578.

The Agawam Junior Women's Club is an equal opportunity volunteer organization and a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs and the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts.

Check our classified pages every week!!!

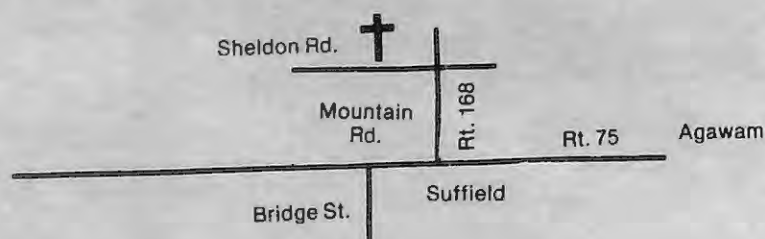
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Newer 8 Rm Col., 2 1/2 Bath, 4-5 BR, Fam Rm & 2 car gar	\$179,900
New 2,600 Sq. Ft. So. Col	\$246,900

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Springfield Turnverein Slates Wine Fest For Saturday, October 25

The Springfield Turnverein of Agawam, 176 Garden Street, Feeding Hills, will hold their annual Winzerfest (Wine Fest) on Saturday, October 25th, sponsored by the Ladies' Glee Club and the Men's Singing Section.

The menu will include roast pork, potatoes, vegetable, coffee, and cake. Serving time will be from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Reservations may be made by calling the club at 786-0924 by October 22nd.

Following dinner, from 7:00-11:00 p.m., music will be provided by the fabulous "Vagabonds," a husband and wife duo that play German music as well as music for all types of entertainment.

The Singing Sections will present a few selections in keeping with the season.

Agawam "Senior Games" Activities

Annual Pancake Breakfast

The Agawam Senior Games Athletes (ASGA) will be having their annual pancake breakfast at the Agawam Senior Center on Sunday, October 19th.

The servings will be from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon.

The donation is \$3 for adults, and \$1.50 for children under 12 years of age.

Check our classifieds

TINAMARIE DULTZ & MARIO VANOTTI

TinaMarie Dultz Engaged To Wed Mario J. Vanotti

Donna and John Hunsinger of West Springfield are pleased to announce the engagement of her daughter, TinaMarie K. Dultz, to Mario J. Vanotti, formerly of Agawam.

Mr. Vanotti is the son of Sandra Vanotti of Holyoke and Ramon Vanotti of West Springfield, formerly of Agawam. Miss Dultz is also the daughter of the late Jack Dultz of West Springfield.

The bride-to-be is a 1986 graduate of West Springfield High School and a 1990 graduate of Westfield State College with a bachelor's degree in psychology. She is currently pursuing Human Resources Generalist Certification at Cornell University, NY. She is employed by ABB CE Nuclear Operations (ABB CENO) in Windsor, CT as a human resources administrator.

The future groom is a 1983 graduate of Agawam High School and is employed as a service technician/welder at Vacuum Engineering Services Co. (VESCO), East Windsor.

The wedding will take place August 8, 1998 at St. Ann's Church, West Springfield.

"Baby Rent-All" Is A New Business

Deanne Martin of Tampa, Florida (formerly Deanne Piteo of Springfield, MA), and Kathy Ran of Tampa, Florida (formerly of Watertown, CT), have recently joined together to offer a rental service to anyone preparing to go to the Tampa Bay area, St. Pete, or Clearwater for the holidays or anytime and don't want to carry all the necessities that go along with bringing a baby with you in the car or on the plane.

We offer cribs, strollers, car seats (which can be available at the airport when you arrive), swings, baby carriers, potty chairs, VCR and tapes, highchair, humidifiers, and much more. All the equipment is sterilized.

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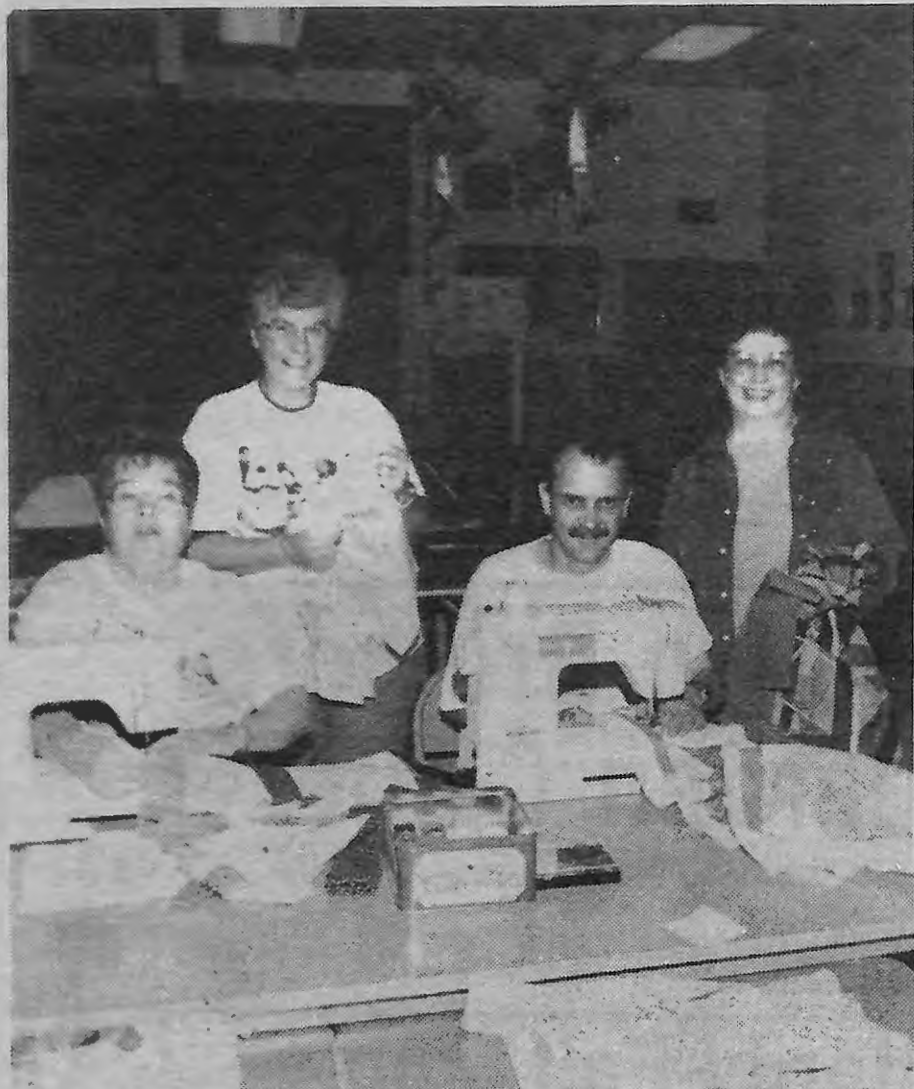
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Church News



MAKING QUILTS AT THE AGAWAM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, from left - Marge Bragdon, Patricia Moos, Sean Manley, Betty Spagnolo, Donna Stefanik, Sally M. Loos, and Sarah Landry. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



Making Quilts For Children Project At Ag. Congregational

Last Saturday at the Agawam Congregational Church, love was shared with the children of Pine Ridge Reservation. Quilters, sewers, and those who have never picked up a needle before, gathered to make quilts for children.

Forty quilts were finished by day's end. And 20-plus "quilts-in-progress" were taken home by members of the Pioneer Valley Quilters. With the total being over 60 quilts, you can imagine how much love filled the church on this day.

Church Of God Has First Public Dinner

The Church of the Good Shepherd, 214 Elm St., West Springfield, is having its first public dinner of the season featuring chicken cordon bleu this Saturday, October 18th.

Seatings are at 5:00 p.m. and 6:15 p.m. The price for all you can eat is \$7 with reservations, \$8 for walk-ins. Children under 12 are \$3.50.

Please call the church at 731-5977.

I wish to thank Reverend Fuller and the members of Agawam Congregational Church for all they shared to make this day possible; Jack Devine for recording the day for us, and I especially want to thank all the angels that worked so hard to give warmth.

The "Warmth Project" is a continuing effort to warm the children of Pine Ridge. Pioneer Valley Quilters meet at the Agawam Baptist Church the first Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.

Spaghetti & Meatball Supper Scheduled At Ag. Methodist Church

Agawam Methodist Church will have a public spaghetti and meatball supper on Saturday, October 25th, at 5:00 p.m. at the church.

The price is \$7 for adults, and \$6 for seniors. For reservations, call Paula or Carl at 786-3261.

Brad Tilden Plans To Present Benefit Piano Concert Nov. 16

Brad Tilden, a senior at Agawam High School, will be presenting a benefit piano concert on Sunday, November 16th, at 3:00 p.m. at the Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main Street, Agawam. A \$4 donation is requested.

Brad's selections will include classical, contemporary, Broadway, and his own compositions. The concert is to assist the Rev. Toby Gbeh, minister of the New Milford Chapel, New Milford, Connecticut, and his family.

Rev. Gbeh, a Baptist Minister from Liberia, Africa, is currently working to have his family join him in the United States. All proceeds from this benefit concert will assist him in bringing his family here.

If you cannot attend the concert, donations may be sent to the Agawam Congregational Church. Make checks payable to the Rev. Toby Gbeh.

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Church News - continued...**Reflections...**

submitted by
Rev. Peter Monahan
Pastor of the Church
of the Apostles,
Suffield, CT
(860) 668-4444 or
(413) 786-8735

Big News Event Of October - Promise Keepers

Perhaps the big news event of October this year will turn out to be the Promise Keepers rally in Washington, D.C. So far, it is what people are talking about more than anything else. People are more interested in the Promise Keepers than in the alleged scandals of the President or Vice President. Wherever one goes or turns, it is a topic of conversation.

The Promise Keepers rally in Washington was not without controversy. Interesting events rarely are. One interesting point about the controversy surrounding the Promise Keepers is that although the Promise Keepers are accused of being a political organization, Promise Keepers has, to date, done a spectacular job of being apolitical. No one can say with any certainty which, if any, political party the leaders of Promise Keepers may belong to or be registered with. If Promise Keepers is a political organization, it surely is the worst in the land. Last year, during a presidential election, the Promise Keepers did not endorse a candidate for president. If Promise Keepers is a political organization, its opponents have nothing to fear!

When one gets past the posturing, the rhetoric, and the noise, the chief concern, some would say complaint, of the opponents of the Promise Keepers movement is that they think Promise Keepers is all about male domination of women. It might be surprising to some, but Jesus Himself would share their concerns! That is more than speculation. It's right in the Bible!

"You know that among the Gentiles, those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must become your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

It seems that two of Jesus' disciples, James and John, were scheming together to obtain power for themselves. Out of the hearing of the other disciples, they asked Jesus to make them second in command to Himself. The world defines power as "being on top," "being in charge." Power is being in a position of ordering others around. That is the way the world works. Jesus refused to endorse their request or their ambition.

The world's definition of power is kind of odd, when one thinks about it. Power should be thought of as the ability to do something, for oneself or for somebody else. We need power to make our muscles or machines work. We wouldn't like it if our power to move our muscles or machines was somehow transferred to make somebody else's muscles or machines work instead.

Being powerful should not be about dominating others. Promise Keepers' message is to follow Jesus' example of leadership through serving. Domination leads to loneliness and exhaustion. It's tiring trying to constantly outmaneuver others. Even the world admits "it's lonely at the top," seeking to become powerful at the expense of others. Living God's way, becoming powerful through serving others, is refreshing to both the served and the server.

Upcoming Events At St. John's Church

The Parish Community of St. John's Church is cordially invited to the Sacrament of Confirmation next Monday, October 20th, at 7:00 p.m. with Bishop Dupre.

Christmas Bazaar: Attic Treasures will be accepted at any time now. Needle and Thread Booth can use material, mattress pads, and sewers. The Jewelry Booth can use old jewelry, even broken pieces.

Bring items to the Parish Center marked "For BAZAAR."

**Our deadline is
Tuesday at noon!!!**

Methodist Church Thanks BIG E Helpers



THE AGAWAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH held a picnic for those who volunteered their services at the successful church restaurant at this year's BIG E. The picnic was held outside the church restaurant on the BIG E grounds. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Agawam Catholic Women's Club Plans Macaroni Supper Oct. 23rd

The Catholic Women's Club of Agawam is pleased to announce that Jennie Christopher (well known for her pasta and meatballs) and Barbara Gingras will put on a Macaroni Supper on Thursday, October 23rd, at St. John the Evangelist Parish Center, 833 Main Street, Agawam, from 4:30 to 7:00 p.m.

Tickets can be obtained in advance at St. John's Rectory, from any board or committee member, or at the door that evening. Tickets for adults are \$4.50 each, and children under 12 are \$2.50 each.

Take-out dinners will be available. Sauce will be

sold for \$3, and meatballs (in a package of 10) will be sold for \$3. Advance orders may be placed with Lillian Doyle at 786-9586. They may also be purchased the night of the dinner.

Serving on the committee are the following: Mickey Adelman, Peg Altobelli, Alice Buell, Betsy Ciempa, Gloria Colby, Rose Dean, Rose Marie Fazio, Eleanor Funai, Mary Gontczaruk, Marty Jerry, Bea Hamel, Helen Lenihan, Theresa Martin, Minnie Moran, Eileen Lutat, Terry Longo, Barbara Pfau, Eleanor Pietroniro, Evelyn Romano, Pat Sherry, and Millie Vassalo.

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Church News - continued...**Weekly Calendar From
Ag. Congregational**

This Sunday, October 19th, is the 22nd Sunday after Pentecost. Worship Service continues at 10:30 a.m. at Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main Street, Agawam.

Rev. Fuller's sermon will be "Not To Be Served, But To Serve," taken from Text: Mark 10:35-45. The children's message will be "Do You Like To Wait?"

This is also Junior High Youth Sunday. Junior High youth will be leading and participating in the Worship Service. Patrick Walsh will play special music on the piano for the congregation.

Ranking items to be placed in the upcoming capital fund drive, continues this Sunday at the Worship Service. The last capital campaign was held in the late 1960's.

The congregation wants to renovate the building and add space for the future growth of the church.

Church School continues at 9:00 a.m. for grades seven through 12, and at 10:30 a.m. for three year-olds through grade six.

The Church School will be using the "Whole People of God." This highly praised program will be used for every age group.

The Open Pantry item for this Sunday is soup. Items collected each week are donated to the Agawam/West Springfield Open Pantry.

The Junior High Group will meet this Sunday, October 19th, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. This meeting is for all Senior High youth.

Come meet new friends, bring your old friends, and plan activities and events. Call the church office at 786-7111 for more information concerning this group.

A Chicken & Biscuit Supper is planned for Saturday, October 18th. Continuous servings will be from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.

The menu includes boneless chicken & biscuits, winter squash, mashed potatoes, cole slaw, rolls, cranberry sauce, apple pie, and beverages.

The cost is \$7 for adults, and \$4 for children. For reservations, call the church office at 786-7111 or Jerry Hamel at 786-2908.

Reservations close on October 17th.

A new member class will be held next Wednesday, October 22nd, at 7:45 after the midweek service. Rev. Fuller will lead the three informational sessions.

Topics will include Church history, Bible literacy, spiritual growth, mission projects, and Church polity and programs.

The Annual CROP WALK will be Sunday, October 19th. (Step off time is 2:00 p.m. at the Agawam Methodist Church.)

If you would like to walk or sponsor a walker, please contact the church office at 786-7111.

**Annual Holiday
Bazaar At Immaculate
Conception Church**

Special events are being planned for the Annual Immaculate Conception Church Holiday Bazaar to be held on November 1st from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. in the School Auditorium, Main Street, West Springfield.

Rita Hannigan, bazaar chairman, is being assisted by various parishioners. Chinese Auction, Andrea Burgess; Luncheon, Dolores Burns; Bake Sale Table, Mary Lewis; St. Jude Booth, Helen McDonald; Candy Booth, Leslie Eickelberg; Bazaar Treasurer, Mary Moran; and Floor Supervisor, Betty Borrette.

Exceptional gifts are being offered for the bazaar raffle: Romance Basket for Two, Ceramic Santa, 50 Lottery Tickets, 25 Lottery Tickets, Fruit Basket, and a Gift Certificate to the Picadilly Pub.

A special extra raffle doll called "Ariel," donated by Marily Barbour, will be on display during the bazaar. Raffle Chairmen are Victoria McGurn and James Slowick.

For further information, call the Parish Rectory at 736-4071.

**All the local news
with us, each week
ADVERTISER NEWS**

**News And Notes From
F.H. Congregational**

You are welcome to join with us at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, which is located at 21 N. Westfield Street in Feeding Hills. The Service of Worship hour begins at 10:00 a.m.

The lectionary readings for Sunday, October 19th, will be Job 38:1-7, (34-41), Psalm 104:1-9; Hebrews 5:1-10; Mark 10:35-45.

Rev. Donaldson's sermon title is "God, Will You Do Us A Favor?"

Children should attend worship with their parents, leaving at the designated time for Sunday School; nursery care will be provided for the very young.

Operation Friendship, an organization sponsored by this church to promote international understanding and friendship, will hold its first fall fundraiser on Saturday, October 18th.

Dinner will be served to the public from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. Reservations are not required. Just bring your appetite!

This is the last chance you will have to take part in this year's annual CROP Walk. This walk, sponsored by Church World Service, will take place on Sunday, October 19th.

Money raised will help fight hunger locally and worldwide. Part of the money raised goes directly to the West Springfield/Agawam Open Pantry.

Registration will take place at the Agawam United Methodist Church, 459 Mill Street (across from Agawam High School), beginning at 1:00 p.m. Most Agawam churches are participating and would welcome your involvement.

If you are unable to participate, please call Bob Broga at 786-7720 to sponsor someone who is walking. Bob will be happy to accept any donations you offer!

You are invited to have dinner with our church family and friends on Saturday, November 15th! The Ladies Benevolent Society will prepare a delicious Chicken Pot Pie for extraordinary eating enjoyment.

Mark your calendar today and check this newspaper for more information in the weeks to come.

On the calendar:

Saturday, October 18th: 5:00 to 6:30 p.m., Operation Friendship supper.

Sunday, October 19th: 10:00 a.m., Morning Worship; 2:00 p.m., CROP WALK (1:00 p.m. registration).

Monday, October 20th: 7:00 p.m., Trustees.

Tuesday, October 21st: 7:00 p.m., A.A.; 7:30 p.m., Deacons.

Wednesday, October 22nd: 7:00 p.m., Choir rehearsal.

Thursday, October 23rd: 7:00 p.m., A.A.

**"Stewardship Day" Is Slated For
Sun., October 19th At 1st Baptist**

Members and friends of First Baptist Church are encouraged to attend a stewardship luncheon to be held this Sunday, October 19th, at 11:45 a.m. in Bodurtha Hall.

The financial needs of the church will be presented at this time, and an opportunity will be given for completing and returning pledge cards for the fiscal year 1998.

The luncheon will follow the regular morning's activities, beginning with morning worship at 9:30 a.m. Pastor Richard Barnes will speak on "Approach With Confidence," using scriptural references from Hebrews 4 and 5.

As usual, classes for all ages will be held, and nursery care is always available.

Plan now to attend this important day in the life of our church.

On our calendar this week:

Monday, October 20th: 7:30 p.m., Social Action Committee; 7:30 p.m., Word Search (a Bible Study Group).

Tuesday, October 21st: 1:15 p.m., EZ Does It Aerobics Class; 6:30 p.m., Mr. & Mrs. Club Dinner and Program; 7:00 p.m., Junior Youth Group; 7:30 p.m., Sister to Sister.

Wednesday, October 22nd: 7:15 a.m., Mid-Week Prayer Time; 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Trading Post Open.

Thursday, October 23rd: 10:00 a.m., Bell Ringers Rehearsal; 1:15 p.m., EZ Does It Aerobics Class; 7:30 p.m., Choir Rehearsal.

The five-mile "Rays of Hope Walk" will be held on Sunday, October 26th. Members of our church will be participating in this walk, which is held each year to support research for the cure of breast cancer.

**Pastor Dennehy Set
For Return To
Valley Community**

Members of Valley Community Church are excited to announce the return of Pastor Steve Dennehy to the pulpit this Sunday, October 19th, at the 9:30 a.m. worship. Pastor Steve, along with several church members, are returning after a month-long mission trip to Guatemala.

Not only are church members anxious to hear all about their trip, they are glad to have him back in the church on Sunday mornings. He, as well as the entire mission team, has been missed!

The children of the church will be departing to Dunn Hall for Children's Church at 10:00 a.m. At 10:30 a.m., members and visitors are invited to share in Coffee and Fellowship in Dunn Hall.

Church School begins promptly at 11:00 a.m. for all ages. Nursery care is available throughout the morning.

The Parish Life Committee will meet on Tuesday, October 21, at 6:30 p.m. The committee will begin to finalize the Fellowship Supper and Talent Show scheduled for November 21st, as well as make plans for the remainder of the year.

All committee members are encouraged to attend.

The Junior Choir will meet on Wednesday, October 22nd, at 6:15 p.m. They have put many a smile on the faces of the congregation with their new bellringing as well as their upbeat songs.

The Senior Choir will meet immediately following the Junior Choir at 7:00 p.m. They continue to amaze church members with their perfect harmony.

After what seems like a long summer break, the monthly Fellowship Suppers will finally resume on Friday, October 24th. These suppers are for church members and friends and give us all a chance to meet socially and get to know each other on a more personal basis.

The fun begins at approximately 5:30 p.m., with supper beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Valley Community Church is an inter-denominational church, made up of people from various religious backgrounds, but who all have accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Savior.

We invite anyone who is looking for a church home to join us on Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. for worship. The church is located "high on a hilltop" at 152 South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills.

The team name of our participants is "Caring Connection," and they extend an invitation to church members and families to join them. If you cannot participate in the walk, sponsors are needed.

Call Nancy Velozo at 739-6879 for more information. Also, pledges payable to "Rays of Hope" can be mailed to Nancy Velozo, 110 High Street, West Springfield, MA 01089.

The Missions Committee is asking that for your donation to the Thanksgiving and Christmas food baskets for Agawam's needy this Sunday, consider the following: packaged foods, pasta, cake mixes, pie fillings, beans, stuffing, and cookies.

**"A religion that fits me,
instead of me fitting it."**



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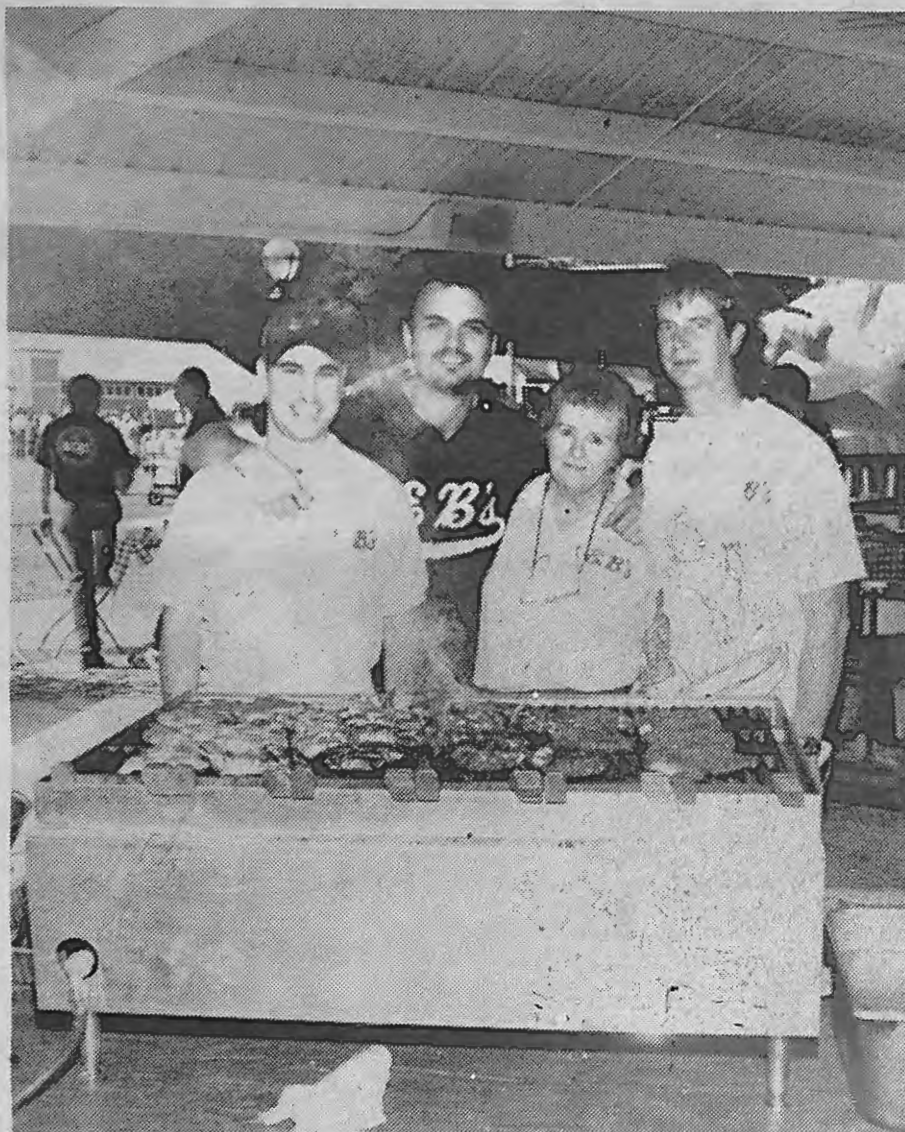
Spotlight On Business

Thorpe's Office Supply Cited



GREATER SPRINGFIELD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE VICE-PRESIDENT Debra Boronski and Mayor Christopher C. Johnson recently paid a visit and then toured Thorpe's Office Supply on Main Street, Agawam. Greeting them was Brad Thorpe, company president and a resident of town. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

E.B.'s At Riverside Park



E.B.'s Specialty Chicken Restaurant set-up a food booth at the recent Blue Concert held at Riverside Park. From left - Adam Schmaelzle, Ed Borgatti, Jr., Shirley Hadden, and Doug Reed. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Legal Memo

by

Alan J. Ferrigno, Esq.
546 Springfield St., F.H.
(413) 786-9454



Drunk Driving Comparison Blood Test

In a recent drunk driving case, the court held where (1) a defendant motorist, having been arrested at approximately midnight by a police officer on suspicion of drunk driving, submitted to a breath analysis test at 1:18 a.m. and requested to have a comparison blood test performed at his own expense under Mass. General Laws chapter 90, section 24 and (2) the comparison test was not performed because the defendant was not released from the Police Department (where he had been transferred) until approximately five hours later, at which the defendant believed that a comparison test would have been of no value, the results of the breath test must now be suppressed because the police did not assist the defendant in arranging bail or in obtaining a medical examination by a physician pursuant to Mass. General Laws chapter 263, section 5A or a comparison blood test pursuant to Mass. General Laws chapter 90, section 24.

The court reasoned that the police should assist persons arrested for OUI in arranging for immediate release. For persons not to be immediately released who desire an immediate examination or comparison test, the police must provide assistance.

"This assistance may well involve transporting an arrested person to a hospital or clinic," the court stated.

Our deadline is at noon on Tuesday.

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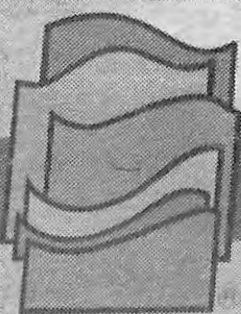
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Spotlight On Business - continued...

Jane B. David Of Newschu Real Estate Is A VIP Director

Jane B. David, sales associate with CENTURY 21 Newschu Real Estate, Inc., 820 Suffield Street, Agawam, has earned the professional designation of VIP Relocation Director, which qualifies her to provide clients with specialized referral and relocation services throughout the CENTURY 21 system.

Ms. David received the professional designation upon completing a series of performance development courses offered only through the CENTURY 21 system's training program. With this training and the system's network of referral and relocation services, she will be able to provide value-added service for clients who are in the process of relocating to another city, state.

"We are very proud of Jane for completing the training necessary to receive this special designation," said John Schuler, broker/owner of CENTURY 21 Newschu Real Estate, Inc. "We feel this additional training will add to the level of professional services already offered through our office."

The CENTURY 21 performance program provides comprehensive career-development courses that enable CENTURY 21 professionals to expand and sharpen their skills to succeed in the demanding and changing real estate industry. The program covers every aspect of real estate.

The CENTURY 21 system is the world's largest real estate organization, with presence in 16 countries and territories: approximately 6,100 independently owned and operated franchised broker offices in the United States, Puerto Rico, Guam, Canada, Mexico, Japan, Hong Kong, France, Belgium, the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, and the Cayman Islands; and franchise agreements for broker office development in the Netherlands and Luxembourg.

Springfield Business And Professional Women's Club To Mark 80th Anniversary

The Springfield Business and Professional Women's Club is 80 years young this year, and it is planning a gala event on October 28th at the Holiday Inn on Dwight Street in downtown Springfield to celebrate the occasion.

There will be a wonderful dinner with choice of prime rib or baked stuffed shrimp at 6:00 p.m., with a cocktail hour beginning at 5:30 p.m.

After dinner, there will be a slide show presentation to show how the club has progressed over the years, and the rich history the organization has preserved.

Several past presidents of the club will be on hand to tell their experiences to club members & friends. Also, several local and state officials will be there to offer their congratulations and award citations to the organizations.

The public is invited to celebrate with the Springfield BPW. Anyone wishing to attend may contact Event Chairman Linda Tucker at (413) 783-6613 for reservations.

The cost is \$25, and reservations will be taken until October 22nd.

Beaver Camper Assists With Vets' Cemetery



BEAVER CAMPER OF AGAWAM recently donated some of its campers to be used for the special groundbreaking ceremonies of the state's new Veterans' Cemetery on Main Street held on Wednesday, October 7th. Beaver Camper staff members pictured above include, from left - Eugene Thomas, Chuck Beaver, Tom Beaver, and Brian Beaver. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Newschu Real Estate Earns VIP Designation From CENTURY 21

CENTURY 21 Newschu Real Estate, Inc., has earned the professional designation of VIP Office, which qualifies it to provide relocating customers and clients with specialized referral services throughout the CENTURY 21 system.

CENTURY 21 Newschu Real Estate, Inc., received the designation after completing a series of Development courses offered only through the CENTURY 21 system's training program. With this training and the system's network of referral services, it can provide value-added service for customers and clients who are in the process of relocating to another city, state, or country.

John E. Schuler, broker/owner of CENTURY 21 Newschu Real Estate, Inc., said, "The training that our office staff has completed for this designation further qualifies us to provide high-quality service to a much wider audience, utilizing the available services of the entire CENTURY 21 system. We feel this additional training will cer-

tainly enhance the level of professional services already offered through our office."

The CENTURY 21-performance program offers comprehensive career-development courses that enable CENTURY 21 professionals to expand and sharpen their skills to succeed in the demanding and ever-changing real estate industry. The program covers various aspects of real estate, including sales, finance, relocation management, quality service, and business planning.

For additional information on the CENTURY 21 network of referral services, visit CENTURY 21 Newschu Real Estate, Inc., at 820 Suffield Street, Agawam 01001, or call (413) 789-1117.

Century 21 Real Estate Corporation, a subsidiary of HFS Incorporated (NYSE: HFS), is the largest real estate sale organization in the world, with approximately 6,100 independently owned and operated franchised broker offices in 14 countries and territories worldwide.

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Spotlight On Business - continued...

Sarat Ford To Again Host Project KidCare Event

Child Photo Identification Program Will Help To Kids SAFE!!!

Sarat Ford is hosting a Project KidCare Photo ID event on Saturday, October 18th, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. as part of a national effort to provide parents with a free safety photo ID of their children in the event their child is missing. The Project KidCare ID booklet contains a standardized, instant color photo and space in which parents can record vital statistics such as height, weight, and medical information.

A total of 196 Ford dealers throughout New England will take part in the national effort by hosting Project KidCare events on this day. The events are part of the New England Ford "Family Days" campaign, dedicated to family safety and featuring New England Patriots quarterback, Drew Bledsoe, as the spokesperson.

Project KidCare, developed by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC), is a program designed to raise awareness of child safety and provide law enforcement authorities with an effective tool to help find missing children.

Parents who bring their children to the event at Sarat Ford Sales, 245 Springfield Street, Agawam, MA, will receive a free KidCare ID booklet with a standardized, Polaroid color photograph of their child. Volunteers from the Agawam Lions Club will photograph the children, process Project KidCare identification booklets, and provide parents with important child safety information.

"According to the Department of Justice, more than one-million children are reported missing in our country each year," says Jack Sarat, President, Sarat Ford Sales. "We believe that helping to increase awareness about missing children

has never been more critical, and we're pleased we can play a role in helping parents safeguard their children."

According to NCMEC, one in seven missing children is found because of a photograph, making a standardized, current photograph the single most important tool in finding a missing child.

"Everyone has pictures of their children, but most parents don't have a suitable photograph if their child becomes lost or missing," explains Ernie Allen, President and CEO of NCMEC. "It is very important to have a recent, unobstructed head-and-shoulder photograph of the child. The picture should be stored in a safe place with the vital statistics of the child at the time the photograph is taken."

In the program's third year, Project KidCare events have results in nearly five-million children receiving KidCare photo IDs. Events have been hosted in local communities across the country by organizations including police departments, retail stores, health facilities, and fraternal organizations. Any company, organization, or civic group can purchase a Project KidCare kit and arrange an event in their area.

The Agawam Police Department "DARE" officer, along with other police volunteers, will be on hand to answer questions regarding safety issues and for bicycle registrations. They will also be selling a limited number of bicycle helmets for \$6 each.

For more information on the KidCare event being hosted by Sarat Ford Sales, contact Dan Plante or Carole Parent at 786-0430.



SARAT FORD President Jack Sarat is pictured next to a life-size poster of New England Patriots quarterback Drew Bledsoe to promote the KidCare Photo ID event on October 18th.

Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Christine L. David Is Now A Diplomat Of The American Board Of Forensic Examiners

Christine L. David has been awarded status as a Diplomate of the American Board of Forensic Examiners.

A former town resident and a graduate of Agawam High School, David earned her bachelor's and master's degrees from American International College in Springfield. She has forensic experience in the areas of personality profiling, addiction, and testing and assessments.

David has been residing in Alexandria, Virginia, for the past two years, and she is a principal partner in Assessments International.

The American College of Forensic Examiners (ACFE) recognizes experience and education of individuals engaged in forensic examinations covering multi-disciplinary training in medical, scientific, and investigative sciences.

Individuals approved for Diplomate status must achieve proficiency in a variety of topics, procedures, ethical standards, and meet rigorous criteria of the certification program.

Information obtained from such highly skilled experts is often used in criminal cases and court testimony, with implications of local and national

significance. The Diplomate program has received national registration by The National Certification Commission.

The American College of Forensic Examiners is comprised of a group of professionals actively engaged in the field of forensic examination and consultation.

Board membership includes such areas as psychiatry, medicine, economics, toxicology, engineering, psychology, accounting, fraud examination, forensic hypnosis, document examination, criminalistics, fingerprint identification, law, and all forensic areas.

The Atrium Plans Grand Opening Gala On Friday, Oct. 24th

The grand opening celebration of the Atrium will take place on Friday, October 24th, at the facility located at 153 Cardinal Drive in Agawam. The Atrium is a one-of-a-kind assisted living residence devoted exclusively for people with Alzheimer's disease and related memory disorders.

No other facility in the country resembles the Atrium in concept or design. Years of research and careful thought went into the unique structure and program all designed to encourage social interaction and promote active participation in a wide variety of daily activities.

Residents with Alzheimer's and all forms of dementia can maintain their independence and continue to lead rewarding lives in a 24-hour, supervised environment created just for them. Staff are all licensed and carefully selected for the specific qualities needed to be Atrium caregivers.

An extensive course in Alzheimer's disease is required of all staff upon employment to promote a clear understanding of Alzheimer's and the challenges and rewards of caring for those diagnosed with this devastating disease.

Senator Linda Melconian, Senator Michael Knapik, and Agawam Mayor Christopher Johnson will lead the official ribbon-cutting ceremony taking place at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, October 24th at the Atrium.

The public is invited to attend, and tours will be given throughout the day for a first-hand look at this very special and unique assisted living residence.

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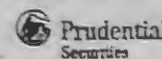
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663 Main Street, Agawam

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For Your Health

Yoga Classes For Elderly At Heritage Woods



CERTIFIED YOGA INSTRUCTOR Sheila deMagalhaes taught her gentle art to senior citizens at Heritage Woods Wellness Center on the grounds of Heritage Hall Nursing Home.

Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



SENIOR CITIZENS AT HERITAGE WOODS WELLNESS CENTER enjoyed yoga classes recently by a certified yoga instructor. Yoga teaches the art of gentle stretch, balance and flexibility, body awareness, and relaxation. For more info, call 786-9704.

Agawam Senior Ctr. To Host "Health Expo" On Oct. 28th

The Agawam Senior Center, located at 68 Meadowbrook Manor, will be hosting a "Health Expo" on Tuesday, October 28, 1997, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The admission is free, and the Expo will be offering blood pressure screenings, cholesterol screenings, vision and hearing exams, and much, much more.

Flu Clinic Slated At Danahy School On October 28th

The Agawam Health Department will be holding a flu clinic at the Danahy School House, 51 Maple Street, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. on October 28th.

Who should get the flu shot? Individuals aged 65 and older; individuals with chronic asthma or other lung diseases; and individuals with weakened immune systems.

If you have any questions, contact the Agawam Health Department at (413) 786-0400, ext. 207.

"Effective Parenting" Series To Begin At Mercy Hospital

Most people are less prepared for parenthood than for any other role in their lives.

Learn to understand and appreciate the stages of a child's development with "Effective Parenting," a six-week series sponsored by the Family Life Center at Mercy Hospital, in conjunction with Brightside Counseling Associates. The program begins Thursday, October 23rd, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. in the Women's Pavilion, 299 Carew Street, Springfield.

Topics will include talking effectively with children, positive discipline, understanding negative behavior, resolving specific situations, temperament, parenting styles, and family atmospheres.

The cost for the program is \$60, and advance registration is required. For more information, call the Family Life Center's Parenting Education Department, (413) 748-7295.

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Raking Leaves

The vibrant colors of changing leaves with crisp, cool air can attract even the most homebody out of doors for a couple hours of leaf raking. For those with larger yards and more trees, the task of raking can become a dreaded yearly occurrence.

For many of us, this yearly ritual causes aches and pains, especially in the lower back. In some, the pain just won't go away. Leaf raking is a strenuous activity to the muscles and ligaments of the lower back. All that twisting and pulling is especially hard on the spine.

To prevent those undesirable problems, it's important to keep your back in good shape. Warm up before beginning your work. Slowly stretch and limber up the muscles in your back. Don't forget your leg and arm muscles, too!

Remember to alternate raking from the left and right sides to maintain proper balance of the spinal muscles. When loading leaves into a bag, be sure to bend your legs rather than your back. Keep those bags small when the leaves are damp and heavy.

Have regular check-ups with your chiropractic physician. By maintaining proper alignment of the spine, your chance of more serious spinal problems is less. The doctor of chiropractic may advise against this activity depending upon the condition of the low back.

When your pain won't go away, or for those desiring a spinal check-up, we at the Schlaffer Chiropractic Office are here to help. Call 789-1369.

Best local news...

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Inviting someone into your home to clean your carpets or upholstery demands trust. You'd like to believe that the company you call today will still be around tomorrow. So, if you'll pardon our pun ... Longo Carpet Cleaning has been around a ... Longo time. In ten years we've built a reputation that is ... well Spotless. Our commitment to customer satisfaction is evident in our use of modern truck-mounted equipment; safe cleaning products; dedicated professionals; employee training programs, and most of all, our satisfaction guarantee. Call Longo Carpet Cleaning today ... or tomorrow ... or next year. We'll be here.

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Arts

Marine Geologist Robert D. Ballard To Speak At Springfield Forum Series

Marine geologist Robert D. Ballard will return to the Springfield Public Forums on Wednesday, October 22nd, at 7:30 p.m. in Symphony Hall in downtown Springfield.

In 1987, he presented an illustrated talk on his discovery of the sunken *RMS Titanic*. His appearance is planned to coordinate with the Springfield Science Museum's major exhibition, "To See the Sea."

The event is co-sponsored by Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Co., and Thomas B. Wheeler, president and Chief Executive Officer, will serve as chairman of the evening. The Forum is open to all free of charge and is entitled "Deep Sea Exploration."

Dr. Ballard received his undergraduate degree in Geology and Chemistry from the University of California. He attended graduate school at the University of Southern California, and the University of Hawaii's Graduate School of Oceanography, receiving his Ph.D. in Marine Geology and Geophysics from the University of Rhode Island.

During the Vietnam War, he served on active duty as an officer in the U.S. Navy, and in 1987 rejoined the Naval Reserve as a Commander.

Dr. Ballard has led or participated in nearly 100 deep-sea expeditions including the first manned exploration of the Mid-Ocean Ridge, the discovery of warm water springs and their unusual animal communities in the Galapagos Rift. In addition to the *Titanic*, he participated in the discovery of the German battleship, *Bismarck*, and the exploration of the luxury liner, *Lusitania*, and the hospital ship, *Britannica*.

He was involved with the U.S. Navy in developing the Alvin, a deep-sea, three-man submarine equipped to collect specimens from the ocean floor. He also developed the Argo-Jason System, which can descend to depths of 20,000 feet. This was used to search for the *Titanic* two miles below sea level.

As a result of the great interest shown by schoolchildren in the *Titanic*, the Jason Project was created. It is an electronic field approach used for exploring and studying our environment, whereby expedition findings are transmitted live to a network of museums and educational institutions.

Yellowstone National Park and Iceland explorations are among the 1997 Jason Projects. This past summer, Dr. Ballard worked on another project — exploring the trade routes between Rome and ancient Carthage. ...

Dr. Ballard has published over 50 scientific articles in numerous distinguished journals and has also written for the general public, including 10 articles in the *National Geographic* magazine. His books on the discoveries of the *Titanic* and the *Bismarck* are worldwide best-sellers.

His first novel, "Bright Shark," and "Explorer," a children's pop-up book, were released in 1992. "The Last Ships of Guadalcanal" was published in October of 1993.

His autobiography, "Explorations," and his newest book, "Exploring the Lusitania," were published in 1995. A new work, "Lost Liners," is due for release this fall.

Dr. Ballard has participated in the production of numerous television shows for the National Geographic, the BBC, the National Science Foundation, Public Television, and other organizations. He also hosted several major shows about ocean research.

The recipient of innumerable awards and many honorary degrees, Dr. Ballard is an Emeritus Scientist in the Department of Applied Ocean Physics and Engineering at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. Also, he is president of the Institute for Exploration at the Mystic Connecticut Marine Life Aquarium.



ROBERT D. BALLARD

Coin Show Slated At The Dante Club

The West Springfield Coin Club will hold its semi-annual Coin Show at the Dante Club on Baldwin Street, West Springfield, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 26th.

Coin dealers will be exhibiting as well as buying and selling coins and giving free appraisals. Admission is free.

The Dante Club is located across from the grounds of the Eastern States Exposition on Memorial Avenue.

For further information, contact Peter Setian at 596-9871.

WestFest Needs Committee Members & Volunteers For 1998

The 1998 edition of WestFest will take place on May 16th and 17th at Stanley Park in Westfield. Each year, the festival is planned and executed by an unpaid volunteer staff.

This year, we are in desperate need of committee members and volunteers. There are many committees that have unfilled slots. A few hours of your time will ensure the continuation of this great event.

If you would like to work on WestFest 1998 and/or require further information, please call 568-2962.

Westfield Theatre Group To Present The Classic "Our Town"

The Westfield Theatre Group, a department of the Westfield Woman's Club, announces its 1997 fall production — Thornton Wilder's classic "Our Town."

This wonderful show will be directed by Robert Stafursky and is in conjunction with the author's 100th birthday celebration. This classic show is thought to be the "beginning of modern theatre."

The show has been cast with a wonderful group of people and promises to be a great opening to the 1997-1998 season for WTG. The show features such WTG veterans as Bob Martin in the role of Mr. Webb, and Bill Hensley at Dr. Gibbs. Mary Ann Arnold will portray Mrs. Gibbs, and Kim Lynch comes to the Westfield stage in the part of Mrs. Webb.

Emily, the young lead, will be played by veteran performer Annette Fournier. George Gibbs will be played by Mike Tesini, and Lauren Coppola will be Rebecca. Wendy Birchall of Southwick will be the stage manager of the performance. Other cast members include Gary Tomestic, Adam Bradley Maxfield, Rose Deroches, Jennifer Abrams, and David Andrew.

"Our Town" will be performed on November 7th, 8th, 14th, and 15th at 8:00 p.m., with a special matinee on November 13th at 2:00 p.m. All performances are held at the Westfield Woman's Club, 28 Court Street, Westfield.

Tickets are \$8 for adults, and \$6 for students/seniors. Reservations may be made by calling the Westfield Theatre Group at 572-6838.

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Westfield Theatre Group Slates Auditions For Upcoming Shows

The Westfield Theatre Group, a department of the Westfield Woman's Club, will hold auditions for its fifth annual "Evening of One-Acts" on Monday and Tuesday, November 17th and 18th, at 7:00 p.m. There will be parts available for all adults. Show dates are January 16th and 17th at the Westfield Woman's Club, 28 Court Street, Westfield. For further information, please call 572-6838.

The Westfield Theatre Group will also be holding auditions for its 1998 music, "Sound of Music," on December 2nd, 3rd, and 4th at the Westfield Woman's Club. Show dates are April and May of 1998. Watch for further information in upcoming releases.

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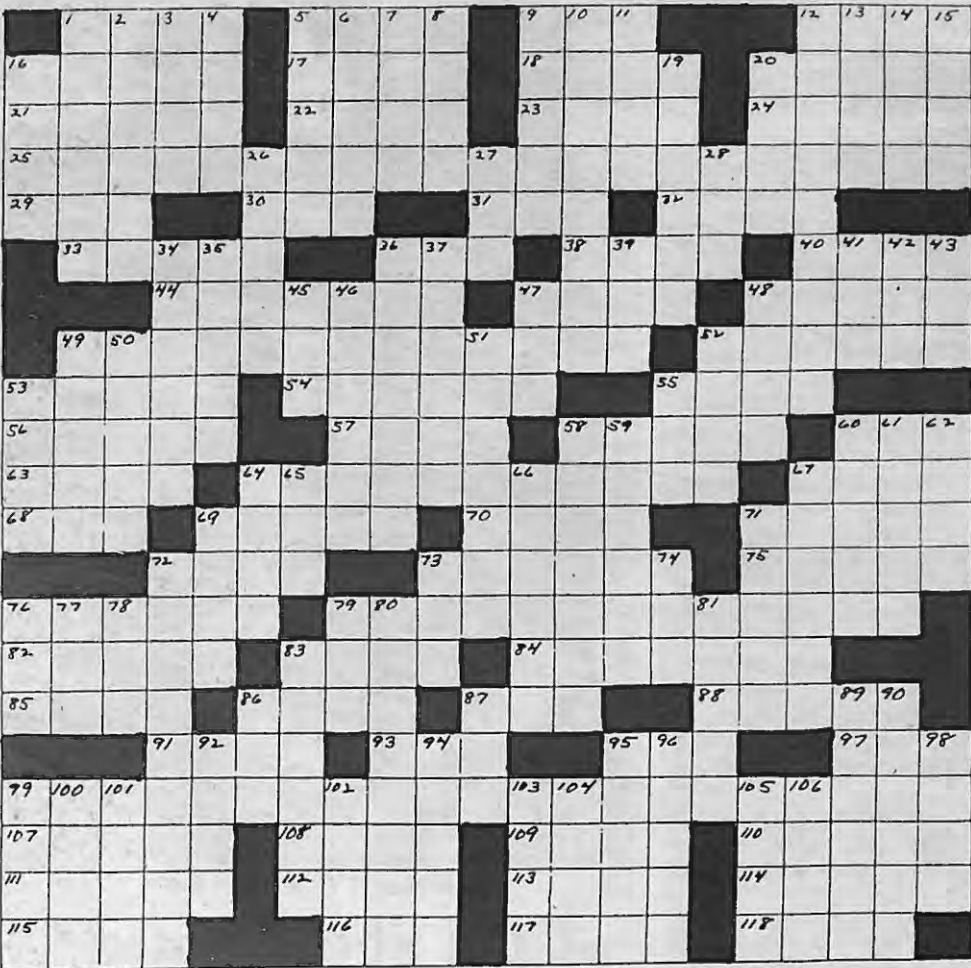
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DOWN

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- 102 Oddly (Scot.)
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- 105 Eases up
- 106 Harm

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JOELLA RAICHE and ALYSON GARVEY

Alyson Garvey Has Joined The Young People's Orchestra

Alyson Garvey, an eighth grader at Agawam Junior High School and the daughter of Kevin and Lisa Garvey of Feeding Hills, has joined the Young People's Orchestra.

During her fifth grade year, Alyson became very interested and involved when the strings program was offered at the Agawam Middle School with instructor Merrideth Quitno.

When this program was eliminated a year later, Alyson didn't know where to turn. Shortly after, she learned that Joella Raiche of Agawam was offering private violin lessons.

Alyson has been a private violin student of Joella's for the past three years. Joella is also a member of the Youth Symphony Orchestra (Senior Group).

With lots of practice and patience, Joella encouraged Alyson to audition for the orchestra. Joella had also begun her music career with the strings program at the Middle School.

Family and friends of both girls are very proud.

Suffield Players Are Gearing Up For A Fun-Filled Mystery

Suffield: It's a play in which the cast of 10 is outnumbered only by the number of doors, secret passages, and laughs. Its fast-paced, witty, and its the Suffield Players' fall production, "The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940" by John Bishop.

This evening of verbal and physical high jinks comes complete with genuine dark and stormy nights, timely electrical blackouts, foreign spies, domestic spies, and a whole crew of folks who just may not be who they say they are ... but then, that's for you to figure out! The odds of guessing "who done it?" gets better, though, as the number of "the slasher's" victims mounts.

The music and mayhem ran October 23rd, 24th, 25th, 31st, and November 1st, 7th, and 8th (with an optional fourth weekend, November 14th and 15th) under the direction of Denise Boutin, who gave Suffield audiences the equally wacky "Noises Off."

All shows are at Suffield's historic Mapleton Hall. Tickets for the first Thursday (October 23rd) are \$8, with all other nights priced at \$12. Discounts are available for seniors and students with proper I.D.

Just call 1-800-289-6148 to reserve your spot, and join the rest of the sleuths for an evening of murder, mystery, and fun!



ELSA AND EDDIE (Amy Heft-Facey and Ed Gogulski) ponder clues, as the answer to "just who is the stage door slasher?" is about to make itself known in the Suffield Players' upcoming production of "The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940."

West Springfield Friends Of The Library Slate Annual Fall Book Sale Oct. 17-18

The Friends of the West Springfield Library will be holding their Annual Fall Book Sale on Friday and Saturday, October 17th and 18th, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Library at 200 Park Street, West Springfield.

The proceeds from the sale will be used to fund extra projects from the Library's "wish list" (items not covered by the annual Library budget).

Fiction, non-fiction, mystery, cook books, crafts, reference, children's, sci-fi, and biography will be featured. Book prices range from 25¢ to \$3.

According to Chairperson Josette Grzberg, some of the popular authors featured will be Clark, Steele, Clancy, Ludlum, Binchy, Kellerman, King, Andrews, Siddons, and Turow.

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Education



AHS Guidance...

by Judith Cohen
Guidance Counselor
AHS Guidance Dept.

Is Your Plate Too Full?

The other day a young lady came into my office. Looking up at her from my desk, I noticed that she seemed ill at ease. Taking a seat across from me, she leaned on my desk using her elbows for support.

"Mrs. Cohen," she began, "I feel so uptight, so overwhelmed." With that, her eyes started to fill with tears. Beseechingly she asked, "Can you help me?" I looked at her and smiled. "Of course," I replied in earnest. "But first we must figure out the cause for your feeling so overwhelmed. Let's start with a few questions."

I proceeded to ask her the following: How many subjects are you taking? How do you feel about them? What extra-curricular activities are you doing? How do you feel about them? What happens when you return home from school? How do you feel about that? What chores do you have to do? How do you feel about them? Are you getting along with your peers? How do you feel about them? What about your family? Tell me how you feel about them.

I listened intently as she spoke. As you can see from my questions, I asked her facts, followed by feelings. Yes, it's good to know how one feels about those facts. Feelings are usually the cause of stress; the facts, by themselves, are not.

So, together we examined what she had on her plate and how each thing appealed and tasted to her. Remember, we didn't examine how I felt about the things; rather, we looked carefully at how she perceived the various activities, subjects, family life, etc.

As she answered my questions, it became apparent that she had a lot on her plate. I told her to imagine going to a party where there was a buffet. At the buffet, she would be invited up to get a plate and to walk around the buffet table, helping herself to the array of food that was available.

"Tell me how you would do this," I asked. By my not telling her, I was forcing her to take ownership of the situation and to work out a solution herself. She thought for a moment and told me that she would look at what was available, decide if she wanted it, and then to take as much of each thing that she had room for on her plate.

"Aha," I smiled and shook my head in acquiescence. "Exactly!!! You would not take more on your plate than it would hold, nor would you choose things that were unappealing to you."

I explained to her that all of life was like that. We could liken life to a big plate, and all our activities, subjects, etc., to the food that we place on the plate. "Think about your plate and I think you will agree with me that it's very loaded. As a matter of fact, I wonder if you really can fit everything on that plate?"

Mary (name changed) thought for a minute, conjured up the picture in her mind, and then looked at me smiling. "You know, Mrs. Cohen, I think you're right. By choosing to put all that on my plate, it really is all starting to fall off, isn't it?" "Yes," I responded, "and that's why you are feeling so overwhelmed!"

Then, Mary and I looked over her schedule. She thought about how each course "tasted" to her. Working with Mary, her teachers, and parents, we reworked her schedule to make it more workable, to make it fit on her plate along with her sports, her musical instrument which required practicing, and her home chores.

As I always do, after a week elapsed, I called Mary into my office. This time, I noticed she entered wearing a whole different demeanor. Not burdened with a very heavy, overloaded plate, Mary looked more at ease.

"You know, Mrs. Cohen, it's amazing how much better I feel. Every little thing doesn't bother me any more. I actually seem to have much more energy and I really am starting to enjoy most of what I'm doing. I mean a few of the courses still aren't my favorites, but I can handle them."

Yes, Mary had lightened her load and consequently her mood. With an easier load, her coping skills were enhanced and she was soaring!

Take a look at your children's plates. Are they too full? Will they get a "stomach ache" from "eating" everything on it? Remember, just like with food, too much can make a person ill and stop him/her from enjoying anything on the plate.

I want to thank all the Seniors and their parents for coming to Senior Night. We were so excited to see over 200 people present. And from the feedback we have received, the night was very successful, imparting much needed and worthwhile information.

After some serious soul-searching, I have resigned my position as Coordinator of Guidance Services. This frees me up to work with more students. Therefore, we have restructured the department.

The following list shows clearly what students are assigned to whom. Please call the Guidance Department at 821-0527 if you have any questions.

SENIORS 1998: Mr. Cohen, I-J-K-L-M-N-O-P-Q-R-S, Frank Gould, Peter Ollari, one foreign exchange student; Mrs. Cohen, A-T-U-V-W-X-Y-Z, Robert Bousquet, Lindy Gage, six foreign exchange students; and Mrs. Williams, B-C-D-E-F-G-H.

JUNIORS 1999: Mr. Cohen, I-J-K-L-M-N, Kathleen Day; Mrs. Cohen, A-B-C-T-U-V-W-X-Y-Z, Brian Gallagher, Brenna McGinn, Justin

Petrangelo, Richard Rodriguez; Mrs. Gould, O-P-Q-R-S; and Mrs. Williams, D-E-F-G-H.

SOPHOMORES 2000: Mr. Cohen, I-J-K-L-M-N; Mrs. Cohen, A-B-C-T-U-V-W-X-Y-Z, John Marcotte; Mrs. Gould, O-P-Q-R-S; and Mrs. Williams, D-E-F-G-H.

FRESHMEN 2001: Mr. Cohen, H's, Steven Messina; Mrs. Cohen, D-T-U-V-W-X-Y-Z; Mr. Dacey, A-B-C-E-F; Mrs. Gould, I-J-K-L-M-N-O-P-Q-R-S; and Mrs. Williams, G's, Stephanie Pettazzoni.

GUIDANCE BULLETIN

COLLEGE CONFERENCES: If you are interested in meeting with either of the following college representatives, you should sign up at least a day in advance in the guidance office.

October 20th: Fairleigh Dickinson University, 10:15; UMass, 12:15.

OPEN HOUSES: See your counselor for more information.

Career Day in Architecture: Twenty-five schools will be available to answer your questions about architectural education, financial aid, computers, licensing, and more. The program will be held at the Boston Society of Architects, 52 Broad Street, Boston, October 18th, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Western New England College: October 19th, November 15th, December 7th.

UMass Lowell: December 6th or December 14th.

Southern Vermont College: October 25th, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

UMass Dartmouth: November 2nd, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

University of Scranton: November 2nd.

Wheelock College: November 15th, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

SCHOLARSHIPS: See your counselor.

Boston University College of Engineering Scholarship Examination Competition: Open to high school seniors who plan to enroll at B.U. Full tuition scholarships will be offered to at least the top six scorers nationwide whose academic record demonstrates high achievement and who are accepted to any of the University's undergraduate degree programs. The competition will be held on Sunday, November 16th, in Boston. Registration materials must be returned by November 3, 1997.

Ron Brown Scholar Program: Open to African-American high school seniors who really excel academically, exemplify exceptional leadership potential, make an impact on their communities, and demonstrate financial need. Deadline: January 9, 1998.

SAE Engineering Scholarships: To qualify for these scholarships, the applicant must enroll in an accredited engineering program, have a 3.5 cumulative grade point average for the 10th and 11th grades, and rank in the 90th percentile in both the math and verbal SAT's. Deadline: December 1, 1997.

Elmira College Honors Scholarships.
Franklin and Marshall College Merit Scholarships.

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Norman Townsend

Baystate Dental Care Announces 1st Annual Scholarship Program

Drs. Kevin Coughlin and John J. Sullivan IV have announced the creation of the Baystate Dental Care Scholarship Fund. The ever-community minded dental practice also announced the creation of three \$5,000 scholarships.

A 1976 graduate of Agawam High School and formerly of Feeding Hills, Dr. Coughlin is the son of Ralph and Joyce Coughlin of Feeding Hills.

"We thought about calling it the 'we'll buy your books for four years' scholarship," said Dr. Coughlin, "but it was just too long to say. We just want to help some students from our area who need assistance. There are many bright kids who need a little help. Hey, if we can buy their books for a couple of years, it makes us feel great!"

The practice, known for its outstanding community efforts in sports dentistry and (most recently) mouth guard legislation, believes in giving back to the community.

"Kevin and I are from here," said Dr. Sullivan. "We love our community, our families love the community. We all have a real sense of loyalty to the area and we want to do our part to help. This is a start in giving back to the area that gave us so much and to help someone the way we were helped by the community."

Participant Eligibility

Participants must:

- * Be a high school senior at any public or private high school in Western Massachusetts.
- * Maintain a "B" average at midterm of senior year.

- * Be a patient (or immediate family must be a patient) at any of the three offices of Baystate Dental Care for a minimum of six months.

- * Provide verifiable participation in community service project(s) and/or organizations. In lieu of community service, participant can submit two written recommendations by 1) family member and 2) teachers, minister, senator, mayor, etc., attesting to the academic efforts and desire to pursue a college degree.

- * Be available and participate in awards ceremony and publicity events.

(Employees of and suppliers to Baystate Dental Care are not eligible to participate in this program.)

Judging

Three prominent members of the community from various fields such as journalism, education, volunteerism, medicine, and law will be chosen to judge the merits of each entrant and select finalists. No member or employee of Baystate Dental Care will participate in the judging.

Application

Applications will be available and accepted at any of the three Baystate Dental Care offices. Deadline for applications is December 31, 1997.

Presentation

Scholarship recipient(s) will be announced on May 15, 1998. Awards will be presented at a ceremony to be announced at a later date.

Baystate Dental Care Offices

1795 Main Street, Springfield, 733-6651; 49 Southwick Road, Westfield, 572-9665; and 294 North Main Street, East Longmeadow, 525-9500.

Bottle Drive Slated To Benefit Pack 77 On October 18th

Cub Scout Pack 77 of St. John's Church will be holding a bottle drive on October 18, 1997. The bottle drive will take place in front of St. John's Hall, 843 Main Street, Agawam, between 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

Money raised will be used for Cub Scout achievements and activities. If you'd like to donate and cannot make it to the bottle drive, please contact Rachel Thomas at 786-9896 to make other arrangements.

Thank you for your continued support of Pack 77.

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MEDICAL WEST NURSES recently appeared at the kindergarten classes of Mrs. Sullivan, Mrs. Sauter, and Mrs. Gomes at Phelps School to present a poison control program. Advertiser

News photo by Jack Devine.

Poison Control Program Presented To Phelps Kindergarten Students

Kindergarten students at Phelps Elementary School were recently treated to a Poison Control Program presented by Medical West nurses Barbara Myers and Christine Pinney.

Each child received two popsicle sticks: one with a smiley face, the other with a poison sticker. As Mrs. Myers and Mrs. Pinney held up different items, the children held up the appropriate sticker as to what was good to eat or what was a poison.

The children had fun yet learned an important lesson on safety.

Each child received a refrigerator magnet with the Massachusetts Poison Control Center's number (1-800-682-9211) and a bag filled with crayons, poison coloring pictures, and a sticker.

In the future, Mrs. Myers and Mrs. Pinney will be visiting all kindergarten classes in Agawam.

'Troll Book Fair' To Be Sponsored By James Clark School

James Clark School is sponsoring a "Troll Book Fair" to be held Monday, October 20th, through Friday, October 24th, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. each day.

Everyone is invited to this special event, which will feature a BUY ONE, GET ONE FREE purchasing opportunity with hundreds of award-winning book titles to choose from. It will also include a wide selection of science and craft kits and non-fiction titles for the whole family.

For more information, please contact Leslie at 789-9958.

Jr. High PTO Seeks To Fill Vacancy On Improvement Council

Currently, there is an additional parent vacancy on this year's Junior High School improvement council. The vacancy will be filled at the next regular PTO meeting, which is scheduled for **Monday, October 20th**, at 7:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria.

Other 1997-98 school council PTO/parent representatives include Mary Lee Bertrand, Andre Breivogel, Jeff Carmody, and Patrick Decoteau.

If interested in serving on the council, please contact Principal Littlefield at 821-9542 as soon as possible.

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News From The Junior High PTO

The Agawam Junior High School PTO held its first meeting of the year on Monday, September 29th. Past meeting minutes, treasurer's report, and a report from this year's fundraising chairperson, Leslie Young, were presented.

Parents were reminded of the other three ongoing fundraising programs, **AT & T**, **Big Y Education Express** (school ID no. 6055), and **A-Plus America**. All seventh grade parents should have received information about these programs. For further information, individuals may contact Mr. Costanzi at 821-0542 at the Junior High School.

Two requests for PTO funds were presented and approved. The first request was from the Social Studies department to offset the costs of travel expenses for seventh graders to attend the *Bay State Expo* in Boston on October 21st. The second request was from the English department for a monthly subscription to *Reader's Digest*.

Elected to this year's school council were Mary Lee Bertrand and Andre Breivogel, who will join Jeff Carmody and Patrick Decoteau as parent representatives. Additionally, there is one parent opening which will be voted on at the next PTO meeting. Any seventh or eighth grade parent interested in serving on this year's council is encouraged to contact Mr. Littlefield at 821-9542.

This year's **BOOK FAIR** will be held from December 8th-12th. Parent volunteers are needed from 10:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on these days. Volunteers are asked to sign up at the next PTO meeting. If interested but cannot attend the meeting, you may contact Sue Hamlett at 786-6477.

Information regarding the *Massachusetts Pioneer Valley Region Future City Competition* was presented. Meetings take place after school and some evenings. Any seventh or eighth graders are encouraged to contact Mr. Burns if interested.

Several committees will be established at the next meeting. These include **Nominations Committee**, **By-Laws Committee**, and **Eighth Grade Celebration Committee**. Parents interested in any of these committees are invited to attend the next PTO meeting which is scheduled for **Monday, October 20th**. PTO meetings take place in the Junior High School cafeteria and begin at 7:30 p.m.

Agawam Residents Earn Awards At Suffield Academy

At Suffield Academy's annual Underclass Prize Day to honor academic achievement in the 1996-1997 school year, the following students from Agawam were given awards for their accomplishments last year:

Elizabeth Cowan, Scott Chambers Music Fellowship; and **Sarah Cowan**, English Department Award for Best Performance by a Sophomore, and European History Award.

Founded in 1833, Suffield Academy is an independent, co-educational, college preparatory school in Suffield, Connecticut.

Agawam Schools' Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, October 20th: Oven-baked chicken nuggets, bread and butter, honey and dipping sauce, carrot coins, fresh Mac apple, milk.

Tuesday, October 21st: Cheeseburg in roll, oven potato wedges, seasoned mixed vegetables, chocolate pudding with topping, milk.

Wednesday, October 22nd: Rotini with meatsauce, tossed garden salad with spinach greens and dressing, Italian bread and butter, chilled peaches or blueberry jello with topping, milk.

Thursday, October 23rd: Hamburg with gravy on whipped potatoes, seasoned broccoli cuts, bread and butter, midnight chocolate cake with icing, milk.

Friday, October 24th: Grilled cheese sandwich, pickle chips, oven potato wedges with catsup, pineapple tidbits or jello with topping, milk.

You turn our pages for all the local news

Jr. High "Artists Of The Month"



NAMED "ARTISTS OF THE MONTH" for September at the Agawam Junior High were Nick Wentworth (left, seventh grade) and Ericc Powell (eighth grade). Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Agawam & Feeding Hills Kids Will Tote Orange Boxes For UNICEF

They make look like Pocahontas and Darth Vader, but beneath those masks and costumes beat the hearts of Mothers Theresa and Princesses Diana.

Carrying on a tradition that goes back nearly 50 years, Agawam and Feeding Hills children will be "Trick-or-Treating for UNICEF" on Halloween. In their little orange boxes, local children will be collecting gifts for the world's neediest children.

These gifts will help UNICEF provide clean water, vaccinations, education, and medical help to children in 160 developing countries. Last year, New England schoolchildren raised nearly \$300,000 for UNICEF's lifesaving projects.

During the month of October, many schools use

UNICEF curriculum guides, which this year examine child labor. The students contrast their after-school work of babysitting and paper routes with that of children exploited in sweat shops or on farms. They learn about harmful child labor and its threat to health and schooling.

Child labor was the theme of the 1997 *State of the World's Children*, UNICEF's annual report card on how children are being treated around the world.

Besides helping the world's neediest kids, UNICEF New England provides orange boxes, curriculum guides, videos, and other materials to schools, churches, and social groups in local communities. They may be ordered by calling (617) 277-3334.

Eighth Grade Parents "Wanted" For School's Annual Celebration

Agawam Junior High School's eighth grade parents are being recruited to assist with this year's **Eighth Grade Celebration**. This event traditionally occurs at the end of the school year.

During the last couple of years, the event has moved away from being a semi-formal dance to more of a *celebration* to allow for more eighth graders to participate. This past year's celebration included a DJ as well as games and other ac-

tivities.

Parents who volunteers will plan, organize, and supervise students as they prepare for this event.

If you are interested in working on this committee, please call Patrick Decoteau at 789-1155 or attend the next PTO meeting which will be held on **Monday, October 20th**, at 7:30 p.m. in the Junior High School cafeteria.



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Sports

Rejuvenated AHS Shocks Holyoke In 33-8 Cakewalk

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Isn't it strange how coincidences occur in life? You never know when they'll show up. Take Agawam High's 33-8 football victory over the visiting Holyoke Knights Friday night at balmy Harmon Smith Field. On hand for the game were members of the 1957 AA championship team which went 8-1 on their way to the conference crown. Their trademark was a bruising style that bulldozed their opponents into submission. As a matter of fact, 50 years ago, AHS also beat Holyoke, at Harmon Smith Field, by an almost identical 34-6 score. For them the situation must have been akin to the old Yogi Berra pronouncement, "It's like *deja vu* all over again."

The Way It Used To Be

Indeed, the current edition of the Brownies did turn the Purple Knights black and blue. They did it the way it was done back in '57. There were no frills. Nothing fancy. Few gimmicks. Only a big, tough running back, an equally tough, fire-snorting bunch of blockers, and a defense that would not be denied.

Tailback Brian Gallagher was the point man on the attack. The big (6'1", 220 pounds) junior had a day of days, running for four TD's and 256 yards on 33 carries. Gallagher was a model of consistency - 9-53 in the first quarter, 8-89 in the second, including a 45-yard run (set up by a crushing Vinnie Curto lead block), 10-63 in the third quarter, and 6-51 in the fourth quarter. He didn't pass the ball or catch it, as he is capable of doing. In a display of meat and potatoes football, he simply stuffed it right down the gullet of the Knights.

It was his third 100-yard plus game of the season. "Remember, that was only his fourth start as a varsity tailback. He's getting better because he's getting better at seeing the play develop in front of him," Brownie Coach Dean Vecchiarelli offered.

If Gallagher ran wild, his offensive line did a bit of the wild thing themselves. "They were a last minute patch job," Vecchiarelli admitted. Indeed it was. Starting tackle Darrell Malachowski sprained his back before the game. Starting guard George Graves, who has an ongoing ankle injury, found it going on when he took the field and had to sit things out. Starting offensive lineman Mike Aloisi wasn't available, either. Vecchiarelli had to improvise.

Two junior tackles stepped up - Rob Liard (5'11", 230) and John Weinle (5'11", 190). They filled the holes left by the seniors and along with center Mike Lovely and guards Ryan Wilson and Eric Pedersen, opened some holes of their own.

Holyoke did nothing on its first possession. Agawam didn't have that problem. Gallagher took it over from two yards out at 5:14 of the first quarter for the Brownies' first score. A two-point pass from QB Brian St. Jean to Ian Lane made it 8-0, Agawam.

Locals Go Up 15-0

The Knights' second possession saw Gallagher at linebacker pick off quarterback Matt Guenette. That set things up at the Holyoke 45 for the Brownies' second score. After a two-minute, 45-yard, four-play drive (that featured a 16-yard run by fullback Vinnie Curto and a 19-yard romp by Gallagher), St. Jean took it over from the two. Tony Planzo's kick saw Agawam up, 15-0, with 39 seconds left in the first quarter.

The Holyoke defense, despite the team's 3-1 record coming in, was a lot like a sieve on this night - full of little holes trying to stop the big leak. Agawam was fixing to open the flood gates. Gallagher had burned them twice on the run. Now, run shy as well as gun shy, they were looking for the run with seven minutes left in the half. St. Jean (3-8, 65 yards, 1 TD, 1 Int.) dropped and found tight end Marc Pedraza in the end zone for a six-yard score.

After a blown try at the extra point, things stood at 21-0, Brownies.

The Holyoke offense, a vaunted bunch with talent, had come to town averaging 37 points a game. But every time they got the ball in the first half, it seemed like an instant replay of the possession they had only recently completed. A lot of it had to do with the Brownie defensive backs, especially Mike Wing and Brian St. Jean,



SENIOR CLASS MEMBERS of the Agawam High football team. Back row, from left - Ryan White, Vin Curto, Simon Tryberg, Ian Lane, Darrell Malachowski, George Graves, and Ryan Wilson. Front row - Chris Gaffney, Tony Planzo, Norm Gagne, Eric Melbourne, Mike Aloisi, Mike Wing, and Andy St. Jean. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

along with junior Mike O'Connor.

Wing and St. Jean haunted receivers Jamie Athas and Rafael Santos like a couple of Halloween ghosts. O'Connor, a junior starting his second game, intercepted Guenette with time running out to end the only semi-serious chance the Knights had in the first 24 minutes. Intermission saw Agawam take a 21-0 lead into the lockerroom.

Things Change Quickly

Agawam could do little with its first second-half possession. Neither could the Knights. But things quickly changed when the Brownies got their second opportunity at their own 33 with 6:55 in the third quarter.

It was highlighted by a 23-yard reverse, executed expertly by St. Jean and (wideout) Wing. The Knight defense, so focused on Gallagher, never saw it coming. It didn't take long for them to get more of him, however. The 'big horse' picked up 12, 1, 20, and 13 yards, plus the TD at the 4:45 mark, to put a lid on a 77-yard, eight-play, 2:10 drive. The 20-yard effort saw Gallagher tightrope down the left sideline for 10 yards, like a highwire artist. On his TD run, he spun two defenders around with a right left shoulder fake. The extra point was botched. Agawam led, to everyone's shock, 27-0.

That was the way the third quarter ended.

The Brownies, who had started their final TD drive of the game with 2:15 left in that quarter, scored on a four-yard run by Gallagher again at the 8:50 mark of the fourth. It took 10 plays, covered 50 yards, and had the Purple Knights staring and reeling at a 33-0 deficit and definitely circling the drain.

On its next possession, Holyoke scored and got the two point conversion after several tries. By them, however, they were ready to head back to the Paper City lugging the 33-8 loss with them. Agawam went to 2-2 and 2-0 in the AA Conference.

Agawam has an independent Friday night at South Hadley.

BROWNIE NOTES: Gallagher now has 537 yards and 5 TD's on 101 carries (5.3 ypc). The three interceptions against Holyoke, Gallagher, O'Connor (his second in as many games), and Edwin Torres, giving Agawam four for the season so far. They had no sacks, but had numerous quarterback hurries on Guenette.

Agawam's season turned around last year with the Holyoke game. (23-3, Holyoke, at the half, Holyoke winning, 28-23.) Even though they lost, the Brownies went 5-1 over the remainder of the campaign.

BROWNIE STATS: RUSHING: Gallagher, 33-256 (7.7), 4 TD's.; Curto, 6-54 (9.0); Wing, 1-23; St. Jean, 1-8; Moore, 3-4; Drobot, 1-4.

PASSING: Brian St. Jean, 3-8, 65 yards (21.6), 1 TD, 1 Int.

RECEIVING: Wing, 1-48; Pedraza, 2-17 (8.5), 1 TD.

AHS JV & Frosh Round-Up

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

FOOTBALL

The junior varsity football team lost 19-0 to Holyoke by virtue of seven turnovers (five on fumbles, two via interceptions).

"It was just an ugly game for us," JV Coach Dan Pryce admitted. The JV's now stand at 3-1.

The freshman football team beat Holyoke last Friday afternoon, 14-13. **Justin Santinello** scored for the Brownies in the third quarter to make it 13-6, Holyoke. **Tony Liquori's** TD made it 13-12 with time running out.

Tony's two-point conversion gave the Agawam freshmen their third win of the season against no losses.

BOYS' SOCCER

The junior varsity boys' soccer team beat Chicopee Comp on Tuesday, 4-3. This victory brought the team's record to 8-2-3.

Goal-scorers for Agawam were **Dave Gallerani** (who had two plus an assist) and **Brian Lopes** (who also had two scores). Meanwhile, **Jon Ashwell** and **Rob Santaniello** had assists.

JV Coach Glenn Olson noted, "We had some great midfield play from **Wes Scott** and **Adam Blair**. **Tim Faust** was a standout on defense."

In freshman boys' soccer action, the Brownies beat East Longmeadow on Tuesday, 1-0. **Josh Dickman** got the goal off a double assist by **Corey Federico** and **Brandon Donovan**.

The team's record is now 10-2-1.

GIRLS' SOCCER

The JV Brownies have been on a winning streak, thanks to wins over Longmeadow (5-1) and Chicopee Comp (4-0) last week, and a 3-0 decision over Palmer on Tuesday.

The freshman team beat Longmeadow, 4-1, and Chicopee Comp, 2-0, to up its record to 6-2-1.

Coach Mike Dobise singled out the play of **Heather Bussiere**, **Steph Pettazzoni**, **Steph Knodler**, **Sarah Lottermoser**, **Amy Jensen**, and **Becky Crum** as some of the reasons for their success.

FIELD HOCKEY

The JV team upset Southwick last Friday, 1-0, on a goal by **Stephanie McLane**. "To beat Southwick was very emotional for us," said Coach Beth Schroeder with a smile.

After this satisfying victory, the Brownies defeated Cathedral on Tuesday afternoon, 4-0. **Stephanie McLane** had three goals, and **Jenn Harvey** had one.

The team's record now stands at 6-3-4.

*** All the local sports with us, each week! ***

Brownies Edge EL To Take VW Title On Links Again

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Champions, like cream, rise to the top. That's what happened to the Agawam High golf team on Tuesday afternoon. Their 9½-8½ win over East Longmeadow clinched the Valley Wheel crown for them. Coach Paul Bachini did a little workover on his lineup and came out smelling like a rose.

Chris Rousseau went out in the number one slot. You can't argue that the Western Mass. champ is indeed the best golfer in Western Mass. He shot a one-under par 34 at the Elmcrest Country Club. He birdied the first and third holes.

Rousseau is a big hitter, capable of 300-yard drives. "He didn't need to pull the cannon out of the bag today. Elmcrest is a short course. You have to play smart golf here. He played the whole thing very smart," Bachini said of his star, who took three points.

Usually, Rousseau is paired up with Nick Bellefleur. Not on this day, however. Sophomore Shawn Biebel went out at number two. "I wanted him to play with Chris. I felt they could feed off each other," Bachini explained. The strategy worked. Biebel shot a 39 and won three points.

Kyle Gendron, in the third spot, shot a 38 and took 1½ points. His partner, Bellefleur, had a bad day, losing his match with a 44.

At that point, Agawam was only up 7½-4½. As Bachini has always said, "So many times in big matches, it comes down to the five and six players."

It did on this day. Bob Bousquet shot a 40 in the fifth spot, taking a point. Freshman Andy Green, an up-and-comer, shot a 41 in the sixth hole. His one point insured the Agawam victory.

The Brownie golfers went to 18-1. Their final regular season match will be against Longmeadow.

AHS Football Looks To Continue Winning Streak At South Hadley

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

This Friday evening, the Agawam High football team will travel to South Hadley. The Brownies are on a two-game winning streak and stand at 2-2 after a big payday (33-8) against Holyoke. The Tigers are 1-4 and coming off an embarrassing (30-7) loss to previously winless Amherst.

That record and their history this season makes the Tigers very dangerous because they have nothing to lose in this non-league game. Their only win was a shocker against Chicopee (35-26), a team that whipped up on the Brownies (34-7) on September 19th.

The Tiger offense is a witch's brew. "They run a lot of unbalanced stuff. They are always looking to put their best players on the other team's best players. The thing is, they don't have that many star players," Brownie Coach Dean Vecchiarelli noted.

If anyone will be a concern for Agawam, it will be senior quarterback Mark Marion and senior flanker Bruce Frady. They figured big against Chicopee (Marion, 2 TDs, 145 yards; Frady, 23-146) and have been what little offense the Tigers have had in their three losses.

On defense, South Hadley will run a 5-2. That will be suicide against the Agawam offense, which features the run. There is no linebacker the Brownies have met to this point that can stop Brian Gallagher. They won't be able to stop fullback Vinnie Curto, either.

The Agawam offensive line will have 6'4", 270-pound tackle Mike Aloisi back in action. Darrell Malachowski won't be in the lineup. George Graves will be doubtful. One of the heroes of last week's game, John Weinle, will start.

Vecchiarelli will get creative in this one. We can expect to see a passing game and maybe a reverse and a Gallagher pass play.

Besides their 38-7 loss to Holyoke, South Hadley beat Chicopee, 35-26. Those two are the common opponents. Agawam lost to the Pacers, 34-7, and beat Holyoke, 33-8.

We usually don't predict scores, but we will on this one — 21-7, Agawam.



AHS SOPHOMORE CHRIS ROUSSEAU continues to be one of the premiere golfers in Western Mass. this year. He is the defending WMass champ. Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.

Brownie Golfers Easily Crush Ludlow At Agawam Municipal

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

The Agawam High golf team tuned up for its big match against East Longmeadow with a 14-4 win last Thursday over Ludlow at the Agawam Municipal Golf Course.

The win upped its record to 17-1. As usual, Western Mass. champion Chris Rousseau played from the number one slot. The junior shot a one over 35, grabbing three points and the match medal. Rousseau, who can really crank it up from the tee, drove the green on the 320-yard par-four sixth hole.

Nick Bellefleur, at number two, was Rousseau's partner. He took 2½ points with a 36.

Shawn Biebel, a promising sophomore, took three points out of the number three spot with a 37.

Kyle Gendron played at number four. His 40 grabbed three points for the Brownies. At that point, Agawam had the match won, with 11½ points to the Lions' 1½ point.

Bob Bousquet shot a 45 from his five spot for two points. Coming in at number six, sophomore Bob Woods' 45 grabbed a point.

Coach Paul Bachini told his kids after it was over that they have a chance to make some more history by winning their final two contests - Tuesday against East Longmeadow and the following Tuesday against Longmeadow. That would bring their regular season record to 19-1, exactly the same as the record of last season's team.

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ADVERTISER NEWS

Late Rally Lifts Brownie Booters To Tie Vs. Comp

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

The Agawam High boys' soccer team took its show on the road Tuesday afternoon and came away with a 1-1 tie at Chicopee Comp. It was a game of two separate games. "I wasn't happy with the team that showed up in the first half," Brownie Coach Dwight Northrup said. "The guys I saw after the intermission were the ones whom I'm used to seeing," he added.

Agawam came in at 6-5-2 and 5-1-1 in the Churchill-Moriarty Division. Comp, a Division foe, showed up at 3-4-5 and 2-1-4. The Colts had won their last meeting, 2-1, at Harmon Smith Field two weeks earlier.

The first half was indeed all Comp. They had the ball in the Brownie zone for 32 of the 40 minutes. When Agawam did get its chances, they came close, but came away with no cigar. Let's have some cases in point. With just over four minutes gone, sophomore forward Barry Ward had a clean shot on the Colt goal on a feed from Jay Murphy. Ward pulled the trigger and hit it right to the Colt keeper. Ward has a ton of talent, but only one goal and two assists to show for it. He's a kid who works hard. Maybe he isn't getting the breaks a scorer needs to get.

A "Buzzing" Comp Offense...

Comp was buzzing on offense for most of the half. The Agawam defenders, led by Rich Rodriguez, Ryan Grealis, and sweeper Jay Flood, were up to the challenge. Comp had two testing corners at 27:10 and 26:30. The kick was in front of the Brownie goal. On both occasions, the Brownie defenders turned away the threat.

Bryan O'Quinn, in goal, was playing with his usual flair. But the way Comp was coming on at all times, the faithful on hand had to know it was only a matter of time.

That time came at the 13:02 mark. Comp had a corner kick. It was a true ball and a goal-scoring header that O'Quinn, or any keeper for that matter, could never have stopped. The Colts went up, 1-0.

Up to that point, while the Agawam defenders were working hard to avert any kind of embarrassment, the offense was playing as though they were running in mud. Northrup, pacing the sidelines, was obviously not having much fun. With time running out, Comp came on a megarush. Only some "in your face" defense by Jay Murphy, Flood, Rodriguez, and Jack Biscoe kept things from getting out of hand.

It was 1-0, Comp, at the break. Agawam had three shots on net. Comp came away with five.

The real Agawam soccer team showed up in the second half. It had to be the Churchill-Moriarty champions and Western Mass finalists. Because Comp was playing way over their heads, it was gut check time. The Brownies had to dig deep for at least a point.

Ward had a chance with four minutes gone, but misfired. An Agawam corner and a direct kick went astray, as well. Murphy and Thomas led a Brownie attack at the 26:50 mark. It was ping-pong soccer for both teams at this point. Agawam was playing catch-up. Comp was laying back on defense, trying to protect the slim lead.

Brownies Finally Catch A Break...

At 9:11 the Brownies finally caught a break when O'Quinn, who came out of the nets to play up front, snapped off a pass to Dave Thomas, who then blasted the ball home to tie it at 1-1. It was his third goal of the season.

It might be worth noting that O'Quinn's presence in the offensive mix had helped the locals before and no doubt the Colts must have been aware of him. Still, the strategy employed by Northrup worked again.

Agawam really had to hang on to get the tie. Comp, not as talented as Agawam, worked hard for their point. "I told them at halftime that they were getting beat because they were being outplayed," Northrup said of his team. Then he added, "Comp was very tough. We'll take the point."

The Brownies had six shots on net in the second half for a game total of nine. Comp had five for a total of 10.

Three More For Patterson (23) As Girls Roll Over Palmer, 7-3

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Agawam High girls' soccer Coach Mary Murray is a perfectionist. She was that way during her many years at Cathedral. Nothing has changed in her three years with the Brownies. So, it wasn't surprising to see her mildly upset with her team's 7-3 independent victory at sunny Palmer on Columbus Day.

Palmer is a Division II school. "Yeah, they are. But they're a good Division II school. Still, we didn't play any kind of defense, so they end up scoring three on us," Murray noted. Then she added, "If we play that way against Cathedral, we'll be totally embarrassed." (At presstime, they were getting ready to play the Purple Panthers on Wednesday afternoon).

On Monday, however, they were concerned with Panthers from a different school. Agawam scored first with 10 minutes gone. Junior Barbara Maloni got it done with a 30-foot blast from the right point. She set the shot up herself on a rush down the right side.

One minute and 30 seconds later, senior Kristen Patterson, on a lead pass from Maloni, got behind the defense and found the back of the net for the 21st time this season and the first of three goals. The score stood at 2-0, Brownies.

Aimee Loudfoot and Jen Lyman were responsible for Agawam's third goal 20 minutes in. Lyman's pass set up Loudfoot, who grounded one into the right corner from 50 feet out.

Lyman scored at 27:03. It came off a throw in by Dianna DiStefano. 'Gooch' put the ball right in front of the Palmer net to get the assist.

Agawam was up 4-0 when Palmer got on the board, scoring with six minutes left, to make it 4-1, Agawam, at the half. The Brownies had nine first-half shots to Palmer's three.

Patterson Puts Out Panthers' Fire

The Panthers, perhaps seeing some slight chance, were fired up when they took the field for the final 40 minutes. Patterson quickly put out that fire, scoring her second goal on a header, with just over a minute gone, off a corner from Amy Mastroianni.

Patterson tapped one in with 4:50 gone to record her third hat-trick of the season. Maloni got the assist. The three scores gave her 23 for the year.

Palmer didn't quit, scoring at the 25:14 mark and again at 13:35, cutting the margin to 6-3, Agawam. At that point, Coach Murray began to take notice. Despite some fine overall 'D' by Amber Conte, Sheri Benton, Katie Shannon, and Jill DeMarco, she told her girls later, "It takes 11



THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE: Agawam High sophomore sweeper, Sheri Benton. Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.

people to play defense. I don't want three or four playing it, while the others stand around waiting to get the ball. You all have to go after it."

A final Agawam score by Maloni sealed the victory. Agawam had nine second-half shots for a game total of 18. Palmer had four for a total of seven.

The Brownies' record rose to 8-4-1.

Swk. Field Hockey Again Proves Powerful Foe For Brownies, 4-1

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

The Agawam High girls' field hockey team had another shot at Southwick High last Friday afternoon at Harmon Smith Field. They had met earlier in the season at the Rams' place, losing 4-0.

This time it was different, but not by much. The Brownies fell 4-1, prompting Coach Carla Lemnah-Warner to observe that her kids played better this time. Which, in essence, they did. But Southwick, a perennial power in this most esoteric of sports, just has more horses than the Brownies.

Agawam, fresh from a 3-2 win over division foe Westfield, knew it would have to step up on defense to have a chance in this one. The Rams, riding a six-game streak, had momentum riding with them.

After a few opening moments in the Southwick zone, Agawam fell back under a furious rush. A big shot tested Brownie keeper Mary Elizabeth Dupelle three minutes into the game. The sophomore made the save. It would be one of 19 tough chances she would face that afternoon.

Southwick had a corner with 4:19 gone. They blew that, but the ensuing melee in front of the Agawam goal produced Southwick's first goal.

Pressure Continues

The score meant more pressure from the Rams. They were swarming on the left wing. There to greet them were Shauna Hadden, Steph Fleming, and Danielle DeForge. Dupelle, the last line of defense, made another great save at 24:10.

While the defense was grimly trying to prevent another Southwick score, Alison Pratt and Melissa Berry were hustling in an attempt to clear the ball.

The Rams' defense, intent upon intercepting



AGAWAM'S SHAUNA HADDEN marks Southwick's Melissa Rogers in field hockey action last Friday at Harmon Smith Field. Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.

passes at midfield, made a tactical error with 14 minutes gone. Brownie tri-captain Steph Fleming, always alert for opportunities, saw an opening on the right side and took off. After getting a pass from Pratt, she stickhandled from midfield, cut to

SEE FIELD HOCKEY - Page 46...

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FIELD HOCKEY - from Page 45...

the middle 50 feet out, and drove on the Southwick goal. It was her show all the way.

She split the remaining two defenders and belted the ball home from 20 feet out, into the back of the Ram net to grab her sixth goal of the season. (She was coming off a hat-trick against Westfield and continues to be among the Southern Division's scoring leaders.) The assist went to Pratt. It was all tied at one.

Southwick came storming back, again penetrating deep into the Brownie zone. The Agawam defense broke up two straight Southwick corners. Some heads-up hustle by Heather Hughes helped blunt both of them.

Despite a spirited Brownie defense, it was obvious to the faithful that Southwick was spending too much time on offense. Dupelle was making super saves. But the odds were against Agawam. The more shots someone takes on you, the more chances one has of sneaking in.

One did just that at the 22:53 mark, on a little nip in from 10 feet, center front. Dupelle could not react fast enough. Southwick went up 2-1.

It was the same old song after that. The Ram midfielders stole Brownie passes. The forwards took the dump-ins and went to work. They were led by 6', 170-pound senior Matt Tower. Despite the fact that he's a guy, he does subtle things that don't require the intimidation of size and strength - centering passes to cutters and shots from all over the place that aren't necessarily hard, but are on target.

The Brownies, never intimidated, have played him as hard as anyone. With 13 seconds left, he scooped a pass to Melissa Rogers, who skillfully tapped it in.

The half ended, 3-1, Southwick. Agawam had a shot on net. Southwick took 10.

Brownies Step Up Their Play

The second half saw no Agawam goals. But they stepped up their play. Fleming (if it's possible), Hadden, and Pratt became more aggressive. But the Southwick defenders, working with a two-goal lead, and field hockey being the way it is, knew they were in the catbird seat. Their final score came with 6:39 gone into an open Brownie net.

The final 30 minutes had the Brownies with two shots on goal for a total of three. The Rams had nine for 19.

This was a Southern Division game. Agawam went to 3-4 in the division and 6-6 overall.

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A special two-week, eight-hour, self-defense program designed specifically for women will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays, October 21st-30th, at Fitness First. The course is taught by trainer Garen Stoeher and will run from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. each Tuesday and Thursday night for a total of eight hours.

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Fitness First is proud to present Barbara Vinciguerra, the club's General Manager and one of the area's prominent educational speakers, in an informative Stress Management seminar.

This seminar is available to all members and non-members on Wednesday, October 22nd and 29th. The two-part seminar will examine the various causes and effects of stress. Part two will focus on actual techniques that can be used to help you manage your stress.

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Agawam Little League To Hold Annual Open Mtg. On October 22nd

The Agawam Little League Baseball Board of Directors will hold its annual open meeting on Wednesday, October 22nd, at the Italian Sportman Club on Cooper Street at 7:30 p.m.

The meeting is open to all coaches and parents of the Agawam Little League. This is an important opportunity for all those interested in the League not only to find out about the 1998 season, but also to express your concerns, share ideas, and have your questions answered.

If you are unable to attend the meeting, your concerns, comments, and questions may be mailed to: Agawam Little League, P.O. Box 778, Agawam, MA 01001.

The election of the 1998 Board of Directors will take place at this meeting.

Open Ski Sale On November 2nd At Blandford Ski Club

The Springfield Ski Club is sponsoring an Open House and Ski Sale on Sunday, November 2nd from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. at The Blandford Ski Area in Blandford (just one-half hour west of Springfield, off Route 20).

The ski sale features up to 75 percent off on outerwear, skis, boots, boards, and accessories. There will be used equipment for every budget and a ski swap area for just plain folk to sell their stuff.

The Springfield Ski Club is offering a special membership rate at the Open House of just \$169 per person saving \$20 off the regular rate.

Membership includes a season pass at The Blandford Ski Area, discounts on ski lessons and club events, eligibility for entry into club races, and more!

Sacred Heart Athletic Association Baseball & Softball Sign-ups

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Outdoors New England

by Kent Servis
Outdoor Writer

Finding The Fish In The Fall...

In order to score consistently when fishing in the fall, the angler has to realize the reasons that the fish will concentrate in certain parts of a lake, pond, or river.

Temperature and shortened daylight hours are one major factor. Boat traffic or the lack of it is another influencing factor on normally busy locations.

Fish are considered to be cold-blooded; that is, they do not have a mechanism to regulate body temperature. Their body temperature and their metabolism is dependent on the water temperature.

In a given body of water, there is apt to be a variation in surface and sub-surface temperatures in different portions of the lake.

Find the warmer water and you are apt to find the more active fish. As the temperature of the water begins to fall, the smart angler must slow down the presentation of the lures or baits. When a fish's body temperature cools down due to the colder water, its activity level also drops.

Many fish are lumped into two categories: cold water species and warm water species. Trout, salmon, and the like are considered cold water fish. Their ideal temperature range is geared to cooler water than the warm water fish such as bass, pickerel, and most pan fish.

The good news for the fall angler is that as the bass slow their activity in the fall, the trout respond to the slightly cooler water by spending more time in the upper column of water, and therefore are more accessible.

Between hunting trips this fall, when you venture on the water, a good tool to take is a thermometer. By comparing water temperatures in various parts of the lake, you can take advantage of areas that harbor more active (catchable) fish.

FISH REPORT FRESH WATER

Hampton Ponds and Congamond Lakes both report low angler pressure. Both lakes have similar characteristics and what works at one will usually work at the other. Trout are being taken trolling in the early morning and evening hours. Small spoons and spinners are accounting for most of the trout.

Connecticut River fishermen below the Holyoke Dam have been scoring on numerous smallmouth bass and an occasional walleye. Crank baits worked very slowly outside of the weedlines have been productive.

Above the Holyoke Dam, the river itself, along with the Oxbow section, are producing some decent northern pike action. The mid-summer pattern of using fast-moving buzz baits has come and gone. Slower-moving lures such as spinnerbaits and crank baits are now producing.

SALT WATER

Stripers continue to be found everywhere along the coast, with flyrodders having a ball on schoolies. Some larger bass are mixed in. Surf fishermen will start benefiting from the annual fall migration of stripers and blues during the months of October and November.

Blackfish are being found in spotty fashion along the Connecticut and Rhode Island coast. Look for rocky areas and submerged mussel beds. Green crabs are the perennial favorite. Porgies are being taken off of most of the reefs in Long Island Sound.

Offshore tuna fishing has been spotty at best, but should improve during October. Sharking has been fairly consistent. Mostly blue sharks have been taken; however, an occasional mako or thresher is hooked, making for an interesting outing.

Bassmasters Slate Fundraiser At Louie's

Borderline Bassmasters of Connecticut will sponsor an Open "Team" Tournament to benefit the "Enfield Food Shelf" on Sunday, October 19th at Congamond Lake (next to Louie B's) from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Entry fee is \$80 per team (includes luncheon). All teams are asked to please bring TWO CANNED GOODS OR OTHER NON-PERISHABLE ITEMS to be donated to the ENFIELD FOOD SHELF.

For registration information, call Bill Decoteau at (413) 566-3961 or Ken or Cally Bell at (860) 749-2044.

— ADVERTISER NEWS —

Agawam's Senior Golfers Get It Done



THE SENIOR GOLFERS GANG who participated in the summer league at Agawam Municipal Country Club gather for a group photo on the last day of the season on September 25th. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



SOME OF THE MEMBERS of the Agawam Senior Golf League, from left - Hal Deyo, Bob Cady, Jim Barry, Lou Muldrew, Ed Coffey, Bob Devine, and Frank Cerpovicz. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



MORE SENIOR GOLFERS at the Agawam Municipal Country Club. From left - Bob Johnson, Al Riberdy, Frank Henry, Herb Carpenter, and Bob Cady. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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week



Pioneer Valley Soccer Round-Up

Agawam Cobras Win Columbus Day Soccer In Windsor, CT

The sun shone all weekend long and so did the Cobra girls as they won their second straight tournament of the fall season! The Cobras compiled a record of four wins and one tie, scoring 17 goals in five games (including four shutouts).

Simsbury was their first opponent on Saturday morning. It didn't take long before Cara Powell put a strong shot in the net and the Cobras jumped out to an early 1-0 lead. They scored again before the half ended. The second half was dominated by the Cobras; midfielders Leeanne Morytko and Kelly Follis played very well. Two more goals were added before the final whistle for a 4-0 Cobra win.

Game two was against Garden City, the first of two New York teams the Cobras would face. The Cobras came out strong, controlling the tempo of the game right from the start. Elise Davilli scored her second goal in two games. The final was 3-0, Cobras.

Sunday morning brought on the much-anticipated game with Massapequa. The game certainly lived up to all the hype. The girls battled back and forth for most of the first half, but the game was scoreless at halftime.

Just after the second half got under way, Cara Powell scored her third goal of the tournament and put the Cobras on top 1-0. The game continued to see-saw, with the ball continually changing possession. The Cobras then scored a second goal, only to have the linesman call it back, when he ruled that the ball went over the endline before the goal was scored.

About midway through the second half, the girls from Massapequa, Long Island, New York, evened the score. The rest of the game saw many great defensive plays from fullbacks Meagan Pokorny and Liz Barker, stopper Lauren Peltier, and sweeper Lauren Fox. The game ended in a 1-1 tie.

On Sunday afternoon, the Cobras took on a very strong Brookfield, Connecticut, team. One of the Brookfield parents commented to a Cobra parent that their girls hadn't lost in a year and a half, not since the Cobras beat them in the spring of 1996 for the Avon Memorial Day Tournament title. Little did they know that history was about to repeat itself.

The Cobras gave the girls from Brookfield an early wake-up call when Lauren Peltier pounded the crossbar after Elise Davilli delivered a beauty of a corner kick! Just a few minutes later, Heather Albano chipped in the first goal for the Cobras. That proved to be the only score of the half.

The Brookfield team did not give up; they continued to apply pressure. As was the case in the Massapequa game also, goalies Jamie Cullen and Stacy Boisvert stayed sharp and made many key saves. Midfielder Amy Lownds scored her first goal of the tournament that then iced the game 2-0 for the Cobras.

On Monday morning, the girls from Agawam found themselves in control of their destiny. Win big and the tourney was theirs. That was just what they set out to do.

Heather Darnell scored what had to be the prettiest goal of the tournament; a high floater that carried perfectly over the goalie's head and into the upper right corner of the net! Tiffany Manzi scored a hat-trick in the first half, and the Cobras were ahead, 5-0, at halftime. They weren't through yet, though.

In the second half, Meagan Pokorny launched a penalty kick, and Julie Czuprynski (who is known primarily for her great defense and awesome throw-ins) added a goal also for a 7-0 Cobra win.

Danielle Glantz, Jessica Lalli, and Lindsey Townsend played very well on offense and had several assists throughout the tournament.

One of the nicest comments of the tournament came from a referee who officiated a couple of the Cobra games. He was overheard saying to one of the linesmen that it was hard to believe that these Agawam girls were under 11 years-old.

On behalf of the many sunburned parents, we want to thank the COBRAS for a very exciting and fun-filled weekend!

To Coach Denny Marr and Asst. Coaches Steve Fox and Dave Boisvert, we thank you for your unending patience and continuing to bring out the best in our girls.

**MORE PIONEER VALLEY -
on the next few pages...**



MEMBERS OF THE U-11 AGAWAM SOCCER ASSOCIATION COBRAS. Back row - Coach Denny Marr, Assistant Coaches Steve Fox and Dave Boisvert. Next row - Heather Albano and Danielle Glantz. Next row - Kelly Follis, Leeann Morytko, Lindsey Townsend, Meagan Pokorny, and Liz Barker. Bottom row - Cara Powell, Jessica Lalli, Lauren Peltier, Lauren Fox, Jamie Cullen, Stacy Boisvert, Tiffany Manzi, Elise Davilli, Heather Darnell, and Amy Lownds.

Agawam Soccer Assoc. Standings (As Of 10/12/97)

UNDER 10 GIRLS

Lyman's Gold

Pfau's Royal Blue

Brewster's Maroon

Maloney's Navy Blue

Gould's Orange

Wood's Green

Klimczak's Red

W L T P

6 1 1 13

5 2 0 10

4 2 1 9

3 2 1 7

3 4 1 7

1 4 2 4

0 7 0 0

Heneghan's Red

Spear's Green

Fleming's Blue Vikings

Hamre's Orange

4 3 0 8

2 4 1 5

0 3 3 3

0 4 1 1

UNDER 12 GIRLS

Adams' Blue Lightning

Patrick's Blue Sonic

Zmaczynski's Big Green

Francis' Orange Crushers

Chiclana's Golden Eagles

Rollins' Red Hot Peppers

Morace's Maroon

W L T P

7 0 0 14

3 2 3 9

3 2 2 8

3 3 1 7

3 5 1 7

2 4 0 4

0 5 1 1

UNDER 14 COED

Southwick

Fournier's Royal Blue

W L T P

7 0 0 14

4 3 1 9

UNDER 17 COED

Kelly's Navy Blue

Cincotta's Big Green II

Gaffney's Red

Fleming's Orange

W L T P

6 0 0 12

4 2 0 8

2 4 0 4

0 6 0 0

AGAWAM SOCCER ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES RAFFLE WINNERS

1st Prize - Patrick Skelly of Feeding Hills.

2nd Prize - Colleen Mutti of Feeding Hills.

3rd Prize - Susan Steenstrup of Shutesbury, MA.

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Pioneer Valley Soccer - continued...

U-14 Agawam Rockets Zoom Into Orbit At Windsor Tournament

The Agawam Rockets traveled to Windsor, Connecticut this Columbus Day weekend to participate in the Windsor Columbus Day Memorial Soccer Tournament. They went with two goals in mind: one, to win the five-game round robin tournament, and the second to go undefeated so they could give Assistant Coach Brad Theriaque a haircut from a bet he made with the team earlier in the year.

They were successful in attaining both goals.

The tournament started with a 2-0 win against a team from Milford, CT. Good, crisp passing and fine halfback play kept the opponents bottled up in their end much of the time as the two early goals were all the Rockets needed for the victory.

Saturday afternoon brought a carbon copy of the first game as the team came ready to play from the opening whistle. Constant early pressure around the goal resulted in two goals and a 2-0 lead against the Enfield team. Once again, this was all the offense the stingy defense would need as they held Enfield at bay and finished game two with a 2-0 win.

Sunday morning brought a different challenge to the team; an 8:00 a.m. game. This is something the Rockets are not very fond of, judging from past performances by the team. This day, however, was different with the Rockets coming ready to play. The end result was a 5-0 shutout of the host Windsor soccer team. Constant pressure by the offense supported by the halfbacks kept the play in the Windsor end of the field most of the game as Agawam cruised to their third win.

Longmeadow was Agawam's next opponent & the Rockets were ready for the game. Strong offensive pressure applied early in the game resulted in Agawam breaking out on top quickly and taking a 4-4 lead into halftime. The play continued much the same way in the second half as Agawam kept the ball in the Longmeadow end and finished the game with a 5-0 win and setting up a showdown for first place with a team from Costal, Maine, which was also undefeated.

Monday's championship game arrived along with an Agawam team that was not to be denied. With strong fan support on the sidelines, the Rockets took the field against the team from Maine and continued the fine team play exhibited throughout the tournament. Pressure by the offense, coupled with some outstanding defensive play, kept Costal off the board and brought a 2-0 halftime lead to Agawam.

The opponents finally broke through the Agawam defense midway through the second half to cut the Agawam lead to 2-1. This goal, however, was the spark needed to ignite the Rockets in the second half and two Agawam goals quickly followed the only goal allowed by the Rocket defense to put the game out of reach and bring the championship to Agawam and a new hairstyle to Assistant Coach Brad Theriaque.

Congratulations are given to the Rockets, who exhibited good sportsmanship and great team play throughout the tournament. Seven different Agawam players scored one or more goals during the tournament with assists too numerous to mention.

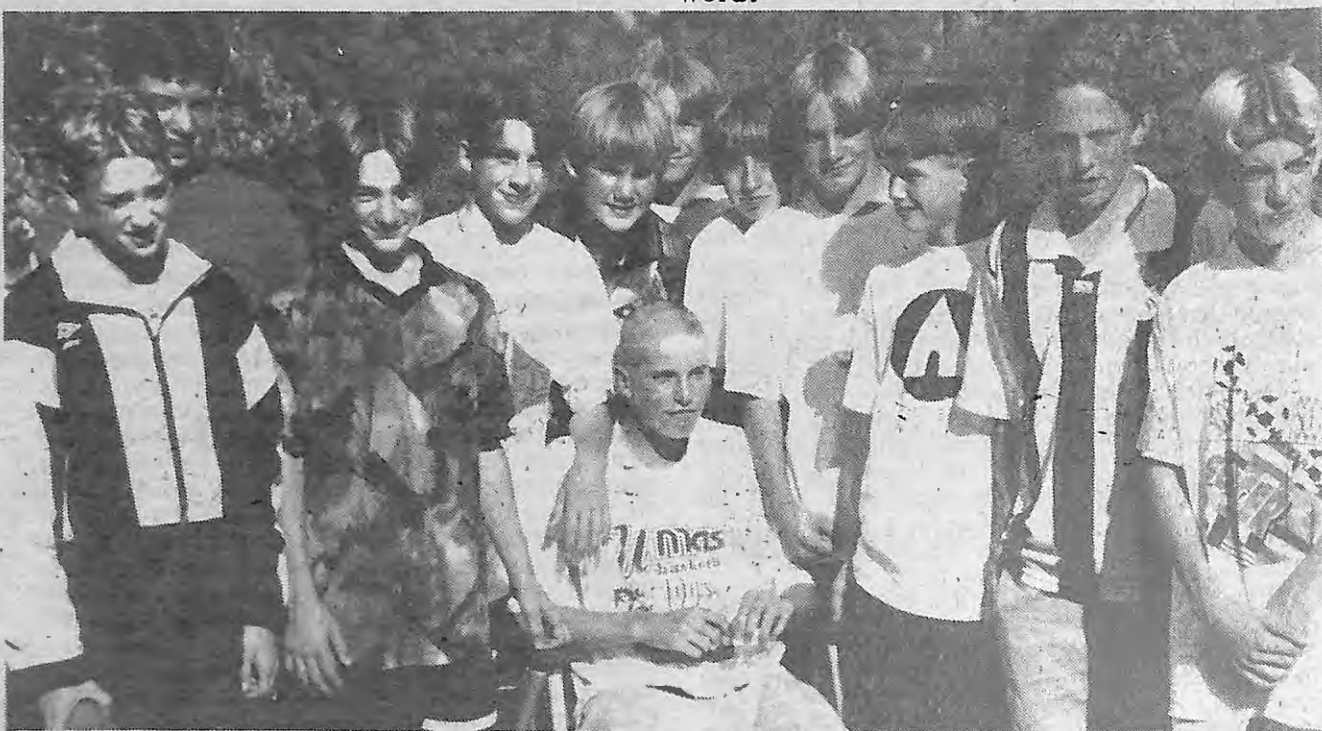
The Rocket players are Brian Knight, Jamie DelPeschio, Tony Valenti, Nick DePalma, Rob Cullen, Mike Carmody, Adam Rovithis, Vinny Outhuse, John Lynch, Shawn Mercadante, Evan Machos, Matt Ligenza, Mike DeCaro, Matt Zajdel, and Brian McGuire.

The coach also extends a special thanks to assistant Brad Theriaque, whose sacrifice motivated the team much more than any words he could have said. WELL DONE, ROCKETS!

MEMBERS OF THE U-14 Agawam Rockets won the Columbus Day Tournament at Windsor, Connecticut.



ASSISTANT COACH Brad Theriaque gets his head sheared to make good on a promise made prior to the tournament won by the U-14 Rockets. The team went undefeated and won the tourney and Brad was made to keep his word.

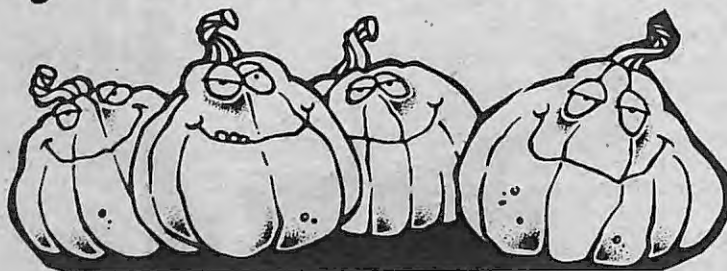


GET A SKI CAP, BRAD. Assistant U-14 Rockets Coach Brad Theriaque appears ready for boot camp after the clippers removed all of his hair following his team's championship at the Columbus Day Tournament at Windsor, Connecticut.

ALL THE LOCAL SPORTS WITH US!!!

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Pioneer Valley Soccer - continued...

U-11 Boys - "Agawam Attack"

Last Thursday, the Attack played host to the second-place Ludlow cats at the Middle School. The Cats started fast and scored a goal at about the three-minute mark to lead 1-0.

Less than five minutes later, Joey Albano broke in alone and put a beautiful move on the Ludlow keeper to tie the game at 1-1. The Cats scored again to take a 2-1 lead late into the half, but the Attack kept coming and (just before time ran out) Joey Albano made a run down the left wing and crossed the ball to Kevin Malloch (right in stride), and Kevin buried a nice shot into the net to tie the game, 2-2, at the half.

The game picked up right where it left off as the second half started, and you could feel the intensity in the air as the two teams fought hard. The Attack continued to work hard and almost pulled the game out by hitting the crossbar from point blank range, but came up empty and settled for the 2-2 tie.

During Columbus Day weekend, the boys travelled to the 19th annual Ludlow Columbus Day Tournament. On Saturday, the Attack played another one of the Ludlow teams, the Sidewinders. Josh Lyons and Kevin Malloch scored two goals each. Kevin Bienia, Nick Cardaropoli, and Michael Thompson added one apiece as the Attack coasted to a 7-2 victory.

Game two of the tournament was on Sunday against the team picked to win the whole thing — Western United. This team is a Maple team made up of a select group of players from about six different towns. This was the third game of the tourney for the Western United team, and they had yet to be tested as they won their first two games, 9-10 and 11-0.

The Attack refused to be intimidated and battled to a scoreless first half. As a matter of fact, the Attack played them even and actually had the better scoring chances, including hitting the post. Ten minutes into the second, Western United scored to take a 1-0 lead. During the last 10 minutes of the game, the Attack really carried the play but could not score and lost by that 1-0 score.

The third game was against Holyoke United. The boys started out fast and went to a 3-1 win. Andrew King scored two goals and Scott Gates scored the third goal, but the tourney ended for the Attack, who tied for the "wild card" spot but lost out in the tie-breaker system because they allowed one more goal than the other team during their three games.

The boys really deserved a better fate because many people felt that they could have made it to the finals, but they seemed to end up in the toughest bracket. All of the boys worked very hard, and I would like to name all of the team members whom I have not mentioned thus far: Sean Deglis, Alex Ellsworth, Ryan Evans, Trevor Gregor, Alex Leven, Seamus Moran, Kyle Perry, Matt Sadowski, Scott Santinello, and David Summers.

U-10 Girls - "Hot Shots"

On beautiful Columbus Day weekend, the Hot Shots traveled to a faraway land called

LUDLOW, where they participated in the 19th annual Columbus Day Soccer Tournament.

The tournament was comprised of four games, each with two 20-minute halves. The shorter halves and smaller tournament fields really challenged both the players and the coaches. The girls played well against all their opponents.

The first game against Holy Cross from Springfield ended in a 1-0 loss. The final three games ended in ties, each 0-0 against the Ludlow Lions, Ludlow Terrors, and Trumbull Twisters from Connecticut.

Even though our offense didn't score, they did a great job up front and had many shots on goal, but just weren't able to get the ball in the net. Our defense showed they can take the heat by only allowing one goal all weekend. All four of our goalies had their share of shots to defend and did it well.

An added activity saw the Hot Shots in their first shootout competition on Saturday night. We had three separate shootout teams comprised of all the Hot Shots.

All team players on these teams had the chance to shoot whether it decided the win or not, so everyone participated in the shootout. One of our teams made it to the finals, but lost 2-1. The fun and experience we had was great.

Regardless of the outcome, the Hot Shots did a great job and had a very successful, fun tournament.

U-13 Girls - "Tigers"

On Tuesday, October 14th at Smith & Wesson, the U-13 Agawam Tigers assumed sole possession of second place in the Pioneer Valley Girls' first division with an easy 3-0 victory over Our Lady of Hope of Springfield. The Tigers are now 8-3-1. The Ludlow Cyclones dropped to third place at 6-2-4 after a 2-1 setback to West Springfield on the very next field.

The Tigers had defeated OLH last month by a 1-0 score. However, the locals dominated this time around from start to finish.

Wing Kaitlin Sardella opened the scoring eight minutes in after she accepted a brilliant wing-to-wing pass from Danielle Cirillo. The cross sent Kaitlin in all alone and she beat the OHL goalie from 15 yards out.

The second goal came midway through the half off a Whitney Brown corner kick. The ball scooted to just outside the penalty area and halfback Nicole Gendreau lofted a shot into the upper left-hand corner.

The second half was much of the same as the Tigers continued to apply heavy pressure in the OLH end. The final score came off Kaitlin Sardella's corner kick when Meaghan Brown, playing center halfback for the first time, grounded a shot home from 20 yards after a melee in front of the goal.

Goalies Vicky Taylor and Sherri Laskowski shared the shutout. Aimee Beaudette at center halfback (outstanding game) and Whitney Brown at center fullback helped to control the middle of

the field, while outside halfbacks Jen Sharpe, Vicky Ruhl, Nicole Gendreau and Kate Horniak helped with the upfield push.

Buzzing the OLH goal were frontliners Brittany Taylor, Karen Prisby, and Maureen Quinlan. Fullback Tricia Fitchben also had a fine game as she slugged it out from start to finish with a much bigger OLH wing.

On Columbus Day Weekend, the Tigers were in the Windsor Columbus Day Tournament and unfortunately, were placed in a six team division that included three select teams. The Tigers were 1-3-1. The second place team in this round-robin tournament, the Monmouth Strikers from New Jersey, did not allow a single goal in five games but still finished second.

The Tigers opened the tourney with a 2-0 loss to the Massapequa Hot Shots, a select team from Long Island. The Tigers were pretty much on the defensive in this one but goalie Vicky Taylor was again brilliant.

The next game was against the Glastonbury Sting, a strong club team that had twice before defeated the Tigers in years past. This time, however, the Tigers registered a 1-1 tie but had many chances to score, including an 18-minute span during the second half when they totally pinned the Sting in their end. Kaitlin Sardella opened the scoring just two minutes in off a rebound in front of the goal. The Sting tied it early in the second half and then were under the gun the rest of the way.

The two games on Sunday were against select teams. The first came against tournament winner South Coast, a Division I Maple Team from the south of Boston. South Coast dominated in the 4-1 win as goalies Vicky Taylor and Sherri Laskowski were under seige. Fullbacks Danielle Cirillo, Tricia Fitchben, and Melissa Savenko were kept under heavy pressure throughout this game. Wing Kaitlin Sardella scored the Tigers' only goal on a penalty shot.

The Monmouth Strikers defeated the Tigers, 1-0 on a goal with just six minutes left in the game played on late Sunday afternoon. This was an outstanding and intense effort by the Tigers against a very skilled and fast team. Goalie Vicky Taylor was again outstanding, as were fullbacks Sherri Laskowski, Danielle Cirillo, Whitney Brown, and Tricia Fitchben.

The Tigers on Columbus Day defeated Garden City, 1-0. The Tigers had the better of the play for most of this game. Kaitlin Sardella scored the lone goal early in the first half. The shot came from the right side on a angle from 25 yards out that skidded past the goalie. Halfback Aimee Beaudette picked up the assist.

Control of the midfield was the key in this game as Jen Sharpe, Whitney Brown, Aimee Beaudette, Nicole Gendreau, and Melissa Savenko all played strong games. Goalies Vicky Taylor and Sherri Laskowski shared the shutout.

Jr. Women's Club The Food Queens At Soccer Jamboree



THE AGAWAM JUNIOR WOMEN'S CLUB once again supervised the concession stand for the recent Soccer Jamboree sponsored by the Agawam Soccer Association. From left - Gayle Lombardini, Theresa Conklin, Sue Godfrey, Abbe McLane, Wilma Gillan, Eva Jack, Carol Pignatare, Christine Jack, Bryan Ghedi, and Aileen Semanie. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Agawam High Gymnastics Ranked No. 1



AT PRESSTIME, the Agawam High School girls' gymnastics team was the number one ranked team in Western Mass. Lots of reasons why include, from left - Coach Angela Sullivan (center) and senior captain Jessica Hansen (left) and junior captain Lindsey Hadden. **IN PHOTO RIGHT**, team members, back row - Stephanie Harnois, Captain Lindsey Hadden, Amanda Peters, Captain Jessica Hansen, Elizabeth Clark, and Coach Angela Sullivan (being held by team members). Front row - Lisa Marsh, Leila Sekkal, and Michelle Blanchard. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Agawam Parks Dept. Announces Programs

PIRANHAS SWIM TEAM:

Sponsored by the Agawam Parks and Recreation Department. Boys and girls ages 5-18. Tuesday through Friday, 6:15 to 8:45 p.m., at Agawam Junior High School Pool. \$50 per participant.

Seasons runs the first week of October through the first week in February. Registration is now being accepted at the Recreation Office.

For more information, please contact Steve Adamski at 789-2451.

INSTRUCTIONAL & YOUTH BASKETBALL:

Sponsored by the Agawam Parks and Recreation Department.

Grades 1 & 2: Saturday, 9:00 to 9:55 a.m., 10:00 to 10:55 a.m., 11:00 to 11:55 a.m., and noontime to 12:55 p.m.. 10 weeks beginning the first week in January. \$30 per participant.

Youth Basketball: Grade 3 & 4, elementary; Grades 5 & 6, middle; Grades 7 & 8, junior; and Grades 9 - 12, senior.

Practices begin the first week in December. Games begin the first week in January. The fee is \$45 per participant.

Registration for Instructional and Youth Basketball is being accepted at the Recreation Office from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. until Friday, October 17th, or until the program is full.

DRAFT: All participants in grades 3-12 will be selected for teams by a draft. Draft dates are

Wednesday, November 5th - Friday, November 7th.

AGAWAM PARKS AND RECREATION AND GAMES & LANES:

Adult & Child Bowling:

Children ages 5-12 and adults, Monday at 6:00 p.m., eight weeks beginning October 20th. The fee is \$8 per week. This includes two games and shoe rentals for child and adult. Register at Games & Lanes the first night.

Youth Bowling:

Children ages 6-12, Fridays at 4:00 p.m., eight weeks beginning October 17th. The fee is \$4 per week. This includes two games and shoe rental. Pizza party and trophies at the end of the program. Register at Games & Lanes on the first night.

Youth Floor Hockey:

Boys & girls ages 8-13; Co-Ed Leagues for children ages 8-10 and 11-13. There will be a 12-game season and playoffs. Trophies and pizza party at the end of the program. Team shirts will be supplied. The fee is \$60 per participant. Participants must supply their own equipment. The season begins Saturday, November 8th.

Registration is Saturday, October 18th from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. at Games and Lanes. For more information on Youth Floor Hockey, please call Peter Sadowski at 789-6189, or call Games & Lanes at 789-3273.



AMARO GONCALVES OF FEEDING HILLS

Amaro Goncalves In Soccer Hall Of Fame

Amaro Goncalves (class of '85) was recently inducted into the Worcester Polytechnic Institute Athletic Hall of Fame. Each year a select group of WPI alumni are chosen for induction into the Hall of Fame, an honor that few athletes achieve in their lifetime.

It represents a dedication to athletic endeavors, a commitment to excellence, and an appreciation for sportsmanship and the qualities that make WPI an esteemed institution. During his WPI soccer career, he established himself as one of the best soccer players, not only at the university, but in America. His prowess on the field earned him an enviable array of honors.

He was a four-year letter-winner at WPI and was named the team's Most Valuable Player. He was also a two-time All-American (First Team as a senior, Second Team as a junior) from the sweeper position and a two-time All-New England First Team selection and All-Star during his junior and senior years. He was also co-athlete of the year in 1985.

As team captain, he inspired his teammates with his leadership and his own passion for the game. He was never satisfied with a victory; he was always looking to the next game and the next chance to improve himself. WPI's soccer coach, Alan King, says, "Amaro was an outstanding leader for us. He was a focused player who would fight to the end."

His love the game spilled over to other young people, for he always found time to teach or to pass on to other players the skills he learned and the knowledge of the game that was his alone.

Goncalves graduated with honors in management and is now the executive director of international sales and marketing at Colt's Manufacturing Co., Inc. in Hartford, Connecticut. He lives in Feeding Hills with his wife, Shelly, and children, Daniel, Brianna, and Andrew.

"Diversity" Was The Name Of The Game At Riverside Speedway In 1997

Diversity was the name of the racing game for the recently-completed 1997 NASCAR Winston Racing Series season at Riverside Park Speedway.

A total of 48 drivers among the track's four weekly racing divisions made it to victory lane, and two of the track's championships — those in the Pro Stocks and Late Model Stock Cars — weren't decided until the final night of racing on Saturday, September 13th.

In addition, Riverside's Modified Division track champion, Ted Riggott of East Hartford, CT, finished fourth in the Winston Racing Series New England Region championship, with six wins in 21 starts for a winning percentage of .686.

"I think that can be directly attributable to our rule-book," said Riverside's Director of Racing, Joe Lewandoski. "We've kept it simple, easy to understand, and by adhering to those rules, we've created a very competitive environment here at Riverside."

Leading the way was the track's Late Model Stock Car division, where 15 different drivers cashed in with wins in the 22 events held. Springfield's Chuck Docherty won the most with five and finished second in points. The title, however, wasn't decided until recently, with Wayne Coury from Milford, CT, capturing the crown by a 970-956 margin over Docherty.

Fourteen different Strictly Stock drivers were victorious in 22 events, as Ed Charette of Plainville, CT, led the way with four. Mike Salmond of Ludlow captured his second straight champion-

While Ed Carroll of Suffield, CT, was racing to his second Pro Stock title in a row, 12 drivers captured feature-event wins, led by Carroll and John Lobo with four each. The track's closest title chase, decided by only 12 points, went to Carroll on the final night of racing. He nosed out Barry Gray of Belchertown, 1,000-988.

Riggott had the most victories, six, among the Modified Division drivers in capturing the championship, 1,030-896, over Tom Jensen of Wolcott, CT. Seven different drivers claimed victories in 21 events.

"Finishing fourth in the region just adds a little more frosting to the cake," Riggott said. "That, and winning on the last night, just capped off a super season for us."

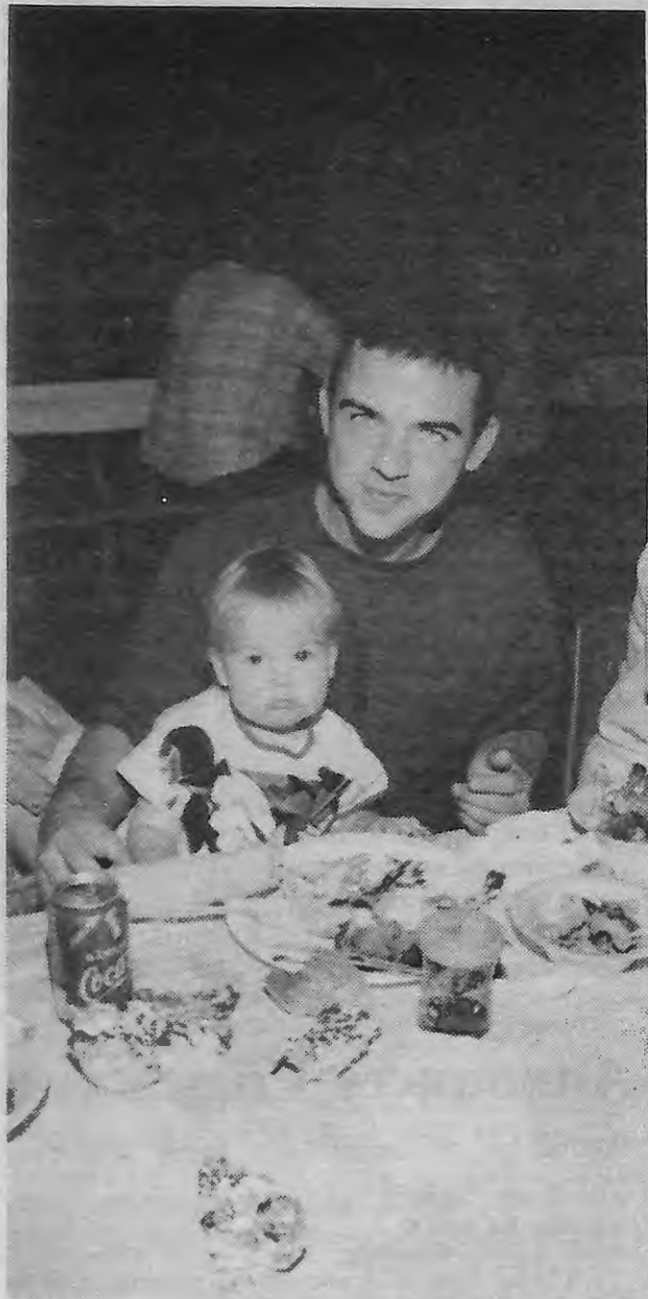
"We were committed to giving Modified drivers enough nights of racing in order to make them eligible for the Regional Championship," Lewandoski said.

A minimum of 18 events were necessary to be in the running for the championship won by Jimmy Broderick of Brookfield, CT, a competitor at the Stafford Motor Speedway.

Drivers in all four divisions will now split up the track's point fund of \$75,000, the largest offered by a NASCAR racing facility in America.

Banquet dates are November 14th and 15th at the Oaks in Agawam, MA. Strictly Stock and Late Model teams will be honored on November 14th, with Pro Stock and Modifieds teams being feted on November 15th.

Mawaga Club Holds Chicken Barbecue...



CHICKEN LOVERS come in all ages: Mark Phillips and 15 month-old Hayley Phillips. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Phys. Ed. Students!



MARK BATES AND JENNA SHEA are the latest "Physical Education Students Of The Month" at Agawam Junior High School. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Please remember that our deadline is every Tuesday at noon.



"GUARDING THE GRILL" for the Mawaga Club: Wayne Harrington, Jr., Terry Letellier (Mawaga Club president), Wayne Harrington, Sr. (head chef), John Larese, and Frank Paro. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



ENJOYING THEIR CHICKEN DINNERS at the Mawaga Club barbecue: Sally Dewey, Precy Sanders, Tyler Harrington, Laura Harrington, and Christopher Sanders. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



SERVING BAKED POTATOES AND TOSSED SALAD at the Mawaga Club's chicken barbecue: Roger Anderson, Jim Gamelli, Sue Collins, Brindi Thompson, and George Fischer. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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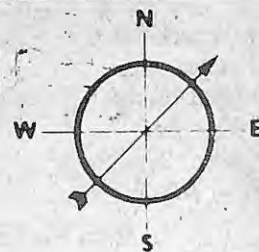
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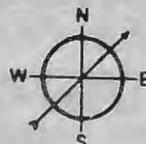
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